

PENNY-WISE

© The Official Publication of Early American Coppers, Inc.



VOLUME XLIV NUMBER 5

SEPTEMBER 2010

CONSECUTIVE ISSUE #260

Copyright 2010 Early American Coppers, Inc. All Rights Reserved

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Club Officials	238	
Introduction by the Editor	239	
Original Articles		
Bill Eckberg	240	Coinage of the 1793 Wreath and Liberty Cap Cents
Chuck Heck	244	Dentilation on 1794 Large Cents – Part IV
Michael S. McLaughlin	247	Fugio Copper Dies Study – Part VII
Denis Loring	253	Late Date Proofs – Part II (1845-1848)
Meetings and Membership Notes		
Greg Fitzgibbon	259	EAC Region 3 Meeting Report
Chuck Heck and John Kraljevich	260	Garvin Committee Report
	261	Garvin Fund Application Forms
Chris McCawley, Bob Grellman and Shawn Yancey	263	Call for EAC Sale Consignments
Rod Burress	265	Candidates for Membership
Miscellaneous Collector Notes		
Howard Spencer Pitkow	265	An Unexpected Discovery for my 800 th Variety: 1800 S198
James Higby	268	“X”
Greg Heim	271	The Seemingly ‘Cents’-Less Collector
Ray Williams	273	Chronological Listing of NJ Copper Census in Penny-Wise Sept 1990-Nov 2003
Jan Edeburn	276	A Snake in the House—and a 1942 Price List
Marshall Bryant	280	S65 Edge Varieties
Al Nelson	280	Many Thanks
Ron Illian	281	Cherrypicking 101: Beginner’s Luck
John Dirnbauer	283	My Dog’s Toothbrush
Letters to the Editor	285	
From the Internet		
Gene Anderson	286	
Swaps and Sales	294	

CLUB OFFICIALS

National Officers

President: Denis Loring (dwloring@aol.com)
Box 32115, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420
Vice President: Bim Gander (bimgander@gmail.com)
12770 NW Steelhead Falls Drive, Terrebonne, OR 97760
Secretary: John Kraljevich (jkamericana@gmail.com)
PO Box 237188, New York NY 10023-7188
Treasurer: Chuck Heck (check48@comcast.net)
P.O. Box 3498, Lantana, FL 33465
Editor of Penny-Wise: Harry E. Salyards (hpsalyar@tcgcs.com)
606 N. Minnesota Ave., Hastings, NE 68901

National Positions

Membership Chairman: Rod Burress
9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215
Historian: Mark Borckhardt (markb@heritagegalleries.com)
1625 Warm Springs Dr., Allen, TX 75002

Regional Chairs and Secretaries

Region 1: New England:

Chairman: Charles Davis (numislit@aol.com)
Secretary: Howard Barron (halfcent@adelphia.net)

Region 2: New York-New Jersey:

Chairman: H. Craig Hamling (hcraig@warwick.net)
Secretary: Greg Heim (gynandroidhead@comcast.net)

Region 3: Mid-Atlantic (PA, DE, MD, DC, VA, WV, NC)

Chairman: Brett Dudek (bad_30_99@yahoo.com)
Secretary: **Error! Contact not defined.** (FitzgG1@aol.com)

Region 4: Southeast (SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, TN)

Chairman: Bob Grellman (ljefferys@cfl.rr.com)
Secretary: Ron Tagney (RonTagney@aol.com)

Region 5: North Central (MI, OH, KY, IN, IL, WI, MN, IA, NE, SD, ND)

Chairman: Scott Barrett (Lawman3212@aol.com)
Secretary: Leo Courshon (oct02nov16@comcast.net)

Region 6: South Central (KS, MO, AR, LA, TX, OK, NM, CO)

Chairman: Russ Butcher (mrbb1794@sbcglobal.net)
Secretary: Chris McCawley (cmccawley@aol.com)

Region 7: West (WY, MT, ID, UT, NV, AZ, CA, OR, WA, AK, HI)

Chairman: Randy Snyder (copperhobbie@yahoo.com)
Secretary: Tom Gesner (tom_gesner@chiron.com)

Region 8: Internet

Chairman: Bill Eckberg (region8@eacs.org)
Webmaster: Tom Deck (info@eacs.org)

The Board of Governors is composed of the 5 National Officers and the 8 Regional Chairmen.

Penny-Wise has been published every two months since September 1967. Its founding editor was Warren A. Lapp (1915-1993). Harry E. Salyards has served as Editor-in-Chief since 1986. Contributing Editors: Denis W. Loring, John D. Wright and William R. Eckberg.

Printed by Advance Graphics and Printing, Chandler, OK.

INTRODUCTION BY THE EDITOR: A NUMISMATIC UNIVERSITY

Harry E. Salyards

Near the end of his memoir about growing up in Des Moines in the '50s, Bill Bryson laments what has been lost: "Imagine having all of public life—offices, stores, restaurants, entertainments—conveniently clustered in the heart of the city and experiencing fresh air and daylight each time you moved from one to another." I find that sentence adaptable to the recent Boston ANA: "Imagine having all of numismatic life—historical societies, libraries, gatherings of fellow collectors, a huge bourse, and a wealth of seminars presented by the top researchers in every field—conveniently clustered on the Boylston Street campus." For that is what it was like—complete with fresh air, sunshine, and dozens of restaurants and pubs: a Numismatic University, if only for a few days in August.

This was the antithesis of 'coin show captivity': Airport—Cab—Hotel—Bourse—Hotel—Cab—Airport: engage and extricate, and the world outside might as well not exist. Instead: Walk three blocks west toward the Back Bay Fens, and the amazing exhibit of early American numismatic treasures, lovingly put together by Anne Bentley, awaited you at the Massachusetts Historical Society. Walk three blocks east, and up the well-worn granite steps to the third floor of the original Boston Public Library building, and in a display case in the Rare Book Room, there it was: the gold medal struck for George Washington by resolution of the Continental Congress, to commemorate his "wise and spirited conduct in the siege and acquisition of Boston." (I know from prior experience that all you need to examine one of their bibliographic treasures is a Boston Public Library card and a signed request; not so with Washington's gold medal, which is securely off-view and unavailable, in the usual course of affairs. Rumor had it that our own John Adams had something to do with the Library being persuaded to put it on display during the ANA.)

Speaking of John Adams, his talk on the Admiral Vernon medals was one of the highlights of the educational presentations at the Hynes Convention Center itself. Others were Len Augsburger's and Joel Orosz's update on their research into Frank Stewart and the First United States Mint; Mike Packard's intriguing investigations into not just the men involved, but the actual physical location of the Massachusetts copper mint of 1787-1789; and a panel discussion moderated by Brad Karoleff, and featuring Craig Sholley and Bill Eckberg among others, on the development of the screw press for coin production. (It was fortunate that the meeting organizers put *that one* at the end of the Friday afternoon schedule, for it went on for two spirited hours, and could easily have run longer, as the level of audience participation seemed to pick up as the time went along.) Even the usual specialty club meetings were a cut above those I've attended in the past; at the EAC meeting for example, Chuck Heck gave a nice presentation on the retained cud seen on the Sheldon-58 reverse. Perhaps when he finishes his current series on the dentils of the 1794s, we can hope for a reprise in *Penny-Wise*? And perhaps follow up articles from Messrs Packard, Sholley, and Eckberg, too?

All-in-all, I would submit that this ANA will be a *very* difficult act to follow.

* * * * *

COINAGE OF THE 1793 WREATH AND LIBERTY CAP CENTS

Bill Eckberg

In a contribution 10 years ago, I (1) identified which of the men working in the Mint coining room produced the 1793 half cents and presented evidence indicating on what days the various half cent varieties were coined. The present contribution uses information from the same primary sources (2, 3) to discuss the mintage of the cents of 1793. Unfortunately, Voigt's daily ledgers (2) begin with Wednesday, April 3, 1793, about 3 weeks after the last of the Chains were delivered (3), so we have no information at this time as to which of these men made the Chain cents or on what days they were struck. There must have been an earlier ledger, but it has not been located.

Fortunately, there are clear records indicating who did much of the work on the Wreaths and Liberty Caps and when. The first entry, Wednesday, April 3rd, finds William Ward milling cents, producing the Vine and Bars edge device and raising the rim using a milling machine, commonly called a Castaing press. By this time, the copper had been cast and rolled, and the blanks punched. Ward continued milling cents for the next 2¼ days, and this evidently provided enough ready planchets for the entire mintage of the Vine and Bars edge Wreaths. He must have started a day or two earlier, as the surviving population shows that over 50,000 Wreaths were produced with the Vine and Bars edge. The Wreaths used four different edge die sets: two different Vine and Bars sets, one of which is shared with the Chain cents (4) and two different Lettered Edge sets. The Lettered Edge coins were milled on June 13th and 20th, over two months later.

Voigt's ledger shows that coinage of the Wreaths began on Thursday, April 4th and continued until July 1st¹. Jacob Bay was the primary coiner of Wreaths, involved each day. John York joined him the first several days, but Thomas Flude and Daniel Gerard replaced York beginning the second week of work. Flude and Gerard later coined the half cents and, as I will show, the Liberty Cap cents.

Wreaths were coined on the following days by the following personnel: April 4th (Bay and York), 5th (Bay and York [½ day]), 6th (Bay and York), 8th (Bay and York), 9th (Bay, York [½ day] and Gerard [½ day]), 10th (Bay, York [1 hr.] and Gerard [1 hr.]), 13th (Bay, York and Gerard), 15th (Bay, Flude and Gerard), 16th (Bay, Flude and Gerard), 17th (Bay, Flude and Gerard), 18th (Bay, Flude and Gerard), 19th (Bay [1 hr.], Flude [1 hr.] and Gerard [1 hr.]), June 28th (Bay, Flude and Gerard)¹, 29th (Bay, Flude and Gerard), and July 1st (Bay and Gerard).

These coins were delivered to the Mint Treasurer, Tristram Dalton, as follows (3): April 9th (12,000), 13th (6,112), 16th (8,000), 17th (7,000), 18th (6,000), 19th (4,240), June 28th (8,000), July 6th (11,825) and July 17th (176). It would be nice to conclude that the deliveries on April 16th-18th represent the coins struck on those days. However, if so, we would have to conclude that the 4,240 delivered on the 19th were produced in only 3 man-hours of work, which would be more than twice the striking rate on any other day that year. On the other hand, for reasons shown below, it is very likely that the 8,000 delivered on June 28th were struck that same day.

¹ Breen's *Encyclopedia* (5) errs in indicating that Wreaths were struck on April 27th, 28th and 29th. The delivery he cites for April 28th (a Sunday, when the Mint was closed) actually occurred on June 28th. Voigt's ledger shows that no coins were struck from April 20th to June 27th.

Which varieties were coined on which days? Sheldon (6) and Breen (5) presented emission sequences that place the S5 first based on letter punch linking to the Chains, but recent findings cast doubt on this conclusion (4). The fact that a die was probably the first *made* does not necessarily mean it was the first *used*. The Vine and Bars edge device on the S8 and 9 matches that on the Chains and is different from that on the other Wreath varieties. Thus, these may have been the first struck.



S5 Wreath cent (all images courtesy of Goldbergs)

Can we provide a rational emission sequence for the Wreaths? S5, 6, 7 and NC-5 share a common reverse, but the reverse appears to be in the same die state in each. All are known in high enough grade that if noticeable deterioration occurred during their coinage, it should be easily detectable. Thus, their emission sequence cannot be known. NC-5, S10 and NC-4 are die chained in that order, but their positions relative to the other

varieties are unknown. S9, S8 and NC-4 share a common obverse; S9 preceded S8, but the examples of NC-4 are all in such condition that its position in the sequence cannot be determined. The two Strawberry Leaf varieties, NC-2 and NC-3, are in such low grade that their emission sequence cannot be known relative to each other; because they share no dies in common with any other Wreath, they also cannot be placed in an emission sequence relative to the rest. Thus, most of the varieties cannot be placed in sequence.

Based on the surviving population sizes, the mintages of each of the NCs must have been no more than 100 coins per variety, or just a few minutes' presswork; that of S7 must have been about 600 – probably less than an hour's work. Many of these dies didn't last long. With mintages so small, these varieties could have constituted a small fraction of the production on any workday in the coining room.

If we accept that S8 and S9 were the first struck, Sheldon's and Breen's emission sequences, already shown to be speculative, must be rejected. Can we correlate the deliveries of the Wreaths with particular varieties as Breen tried? Based on the number surviving, the mintage of S9 is estimated at 24-26,000, so it must have been coined over at least 3 days. With an estimated mintage of 7-9,000, S8 could have been struck in one day. 26,112 were struck and delivered through April 16th, with another 7,000 on April 17th. This could account for these two varieties, so delivery dates are consistent with (though not proof of) their being the first struck. An additional 6,000 were struck and delivered April 18th and another 4,240 on April 19th. 8,000 more were delivered June 28th, and the final deliveries on July 6th and 17th contained 12,001 coins. S5, 6, 7 and many or all of the NCs must have been included in the April 18th and 19th deliveries, though in what order they were struck is anyone's guess.

S11b and c were certainly coined last. The S11 obverse is found only in its earliest state with the Vine and Bars edge (S11a), so that subtype preceded the Lettered Edge subtypes, and, again based on the surviving population size, must have been delivered with one or more other varieties, June 28th or, perhaps, earlier. Die state evidence (5) shows that the two Lettered Edge subtypes were minted from a batch of planchets containing a mixture of the two Lettered Edge

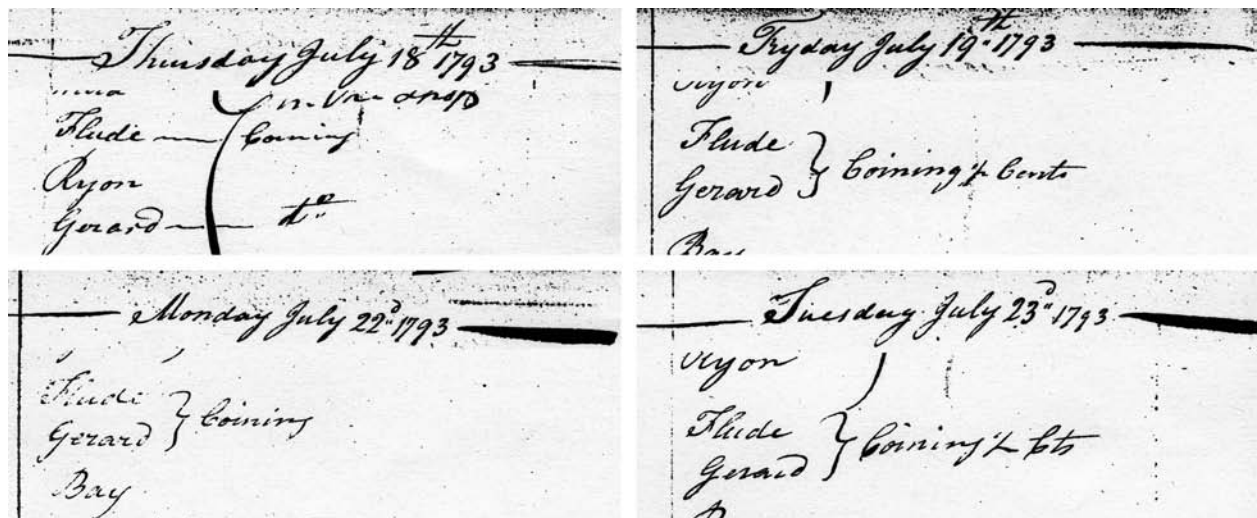
styles. S11b and c thus likely comprised the last Wreaths, milled June 13th and 20th, struck June 29th (a day after S11a) and July 1st and delivered on July 6th (11,825 coins) and 17th (176 coins).

The delivery of 176 on July 17th is curious. No coins had been struck since the previous delivery 11 days earlier, so what were they, and why were they held back? We can't be sure, but it is reasonable to guess that they may have been coins originally thought to be defective but later declared acceptable for commerce and gotten rid of quickly because of an imminent design change.



S11c Wreath cent

What was that design change? Julian (7) and Breen (5) speculate, based on the coins' mid-September delivery date (3) that the Liberty Cap dies were produced between late August and early September. As the largest daily mintage that can be reliably reported for the year is about 8,000 coins, the 12,756 Liberty Cap cents delivered on September 18th must have been struck on at least two dates. These are now identified. Voigt's last entries that show anyone coining anything not specified as half cents (Voigt specified "Coining ½ Cents [or ½ Cts.]" when those were being struck) were July 18th – one day after the delivery of the last few Wreaths – and 22nd. Though there are daily entries from then until August 15th, none but those specifying half cents on July 23rd - 25th reports any coinage. There are no entries at all thereafter until the Liberty Caps were delivered, just before the Mint closed because of the Yellow Fever epidemic.



Sequential entries in Voigt's ledger showing the coining of Cents on July 18 and 22 and Half Cents on July 19 and 23.

If we conclude, as I think we must, that the entries on July 18th and 22nd showing Flude and Gerard "Coining" means they were coining cents, the coins produced those days can only have been Liberty Caps. Though others (5, 7) have suggested later dates, the dies for these coins must, therefore, have been produced no later than mid July, shortly after the end of the Wreath production. Since July 19th is the first entry showing the coining of half cents, we now know that

the Liberty Cap cents, the third major cent head design of the year, were in coinage before *any* half cents, again in contrast to previous suppositions (5, 8).



S14 Liberty Cap cent

All but one of 6 known die varieties of 1793 Liberty Cap are R5 or higher. This means that it is likely that fewer than 1,000 were struck of each, with the exception of S13, which makes up about 2/3 of the roughly 300 known examples. We cannot state with any certainty which variety(ies) were struck on which day, but it is clear that the 1793 Liberty Caps were struck by Thomas Flude and Daniel Gerard on July 18th and 22nd, much earlier than has been previously supposed.

The discovery that the 1793 Liberty Caps were struck in July is important in two ways. First, it shows that the Liberty Cap Cents and half cents were in contemporaneous production, with coinage of the cents commencing first. Previously it was thought that the Liberty Cap cents were produced entirely after the half cents. Also, it suggests that, contrary to all previous suppositions, Joseph Wright, the designer/engraver of the 1793 Liberty Caps, must have seen the product of his work before he died from yellow fever on September 12th or 13th.

This study also uncovers the fact that another Mint employee who succumbed to yellow fever that summer, Jacob Bay, described previously as only making letter and numeral punches for the dies (5, 7, 8), had a much larger role in producing the earliest cents than has been generally thought. If Bay was the major coiner of the Wreaths, we might ask why he did not have a similar role in the production of the Liberty Cap cents and half cents of that year. The explanation may be punishment – he was fined for drunkenness on June 5th and again on July 5th. After his second offense, he never minted another coin.

References

1. Eckberg, William R. 2000. Who made the half cents of 1793? *Penny-Wise*, **34**:106.
2. Voigt, Henry. 1793. *Account Ledger*. Autographic.
3. Dalton, Tristram. 1793. *Treasurer of the Mint: Receipts for Copper Coins*. Autographic.
4. Neiswinter, James. 2005. The Strawberry meeting. *Penny-Wise*, **39**:44.
5. Breen, Walter. 2000. *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of Early United States Cents 1793-1814*. Bowers and Merena Galleries, Wolfeboro, NH.
6. Sheldon, William H. 1990. *Penny Whimsy*. Durst Publications (reprint of 1958 edition), Long Island City, NY
7. Julian, R.W. 1974. The cent coinage of 1793. *Numismatic Scrapbook*, December, p. 68.
8. Breen, Walter. 1983. *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents 1793-1857*. American Institute of Numismatic Research, South Gate, CA.

Many thanks to Craig Sholley for providing copies of the Voigt and Dalton reference materials.

* * * * *

DENTILATION ON 1794 LARGE CENTS
Part IV
The Heads of '94 from Sheldon 21 to Sheldon 29

Chuck Heck

In the last installment I examined the dentilation on those pretty ladies known as “The Heads of ’93”. In this issue I will continue with the “Heads of ’94” from Sheldon 21 through 29. These ladies have a distinctive look about them. Their hair strands appear to be a little longer than their older sisters. Their cheeks are less plump (with the exception of S-24) and their lips and chin are somewhat less defined. Though obviously pretty, they lack that youthful appearance of their older sisters.

In an effort to simplify some of the repetitive writing (and reading) I have decided to create some shortcuts. Rather than write out the words: “the imaginary line running through the middle of the upright of E”, I think the first letters of each word – TILRTTMOTUOE – might be better. OK, not funny! But I thought I should try something ridiculous first, if only to make us all nuts. I really think a simple “IL” should work just fine for “imaginary line” and E for the obverse and E2 for the reverse is self-evident. So, “ILE” and “ILE2” will be my shortcuts.

For “the tip of the pole” I will use “TOP” for my shortcut.

Also, since Sheldon and Breen do not agree on die sequence, I will try to simplify my descriptions of obverse and reverse details by not using the number/letter designations. Instead I will list them on the title line for each variety, and for each obverse and reverse I will start the description with the total dentil count for each die.

Who said counting dentils would be no fun? Let’s look at our next group – The Heads of ’94.

Sheldon 21 (4-B), Breen 5 (4-B)

Obverse 101 dentils: Dentil 1 is bisected by ILE. The first obverse crack through the upper serif of B begins at the center of dentil 5. Dentil 12 dots the upright of L. The crack from the rim to the bottom of the cap begins at dentil 29. Another crack from the rim starts at dentil 39 and runs to the second curl point from the bottom. Dentil 49 lies almost directly under the 7. The upright of the 4 is dotted by dentil 56. The tip of the distinctive broad flat pole points to dentils 64 and 65.

Reverse 92 dentils: Same as Sheldon 19 and 20, Breen 3 and 4.

Sheldon 22 (5-C), Breen 6 (5-C)

Obverse 93 dentils: Dentil 1 is completely left of ILE. Dentils 43, 45, and 51 respectively dot the 1, the 7 and the 4 of the date. TOP points between dentils 58 and 59. The right branch of the Y is dotted by dentil 82. Dentil 84 is above and slightly left of the left branch of Y.

Reverse 104 dentils: This reverse die shares the record with reverse A for most number of dentils at 104. It is also known as the “Mounds” reverse, which displays some of the most spectacular die sinking in the entire Sheldon series. Dentil 1 is bisected by ILE2. Dentil 36 dots the right upright of N while dentil 38 dots the N’s left upright. The right upright of U is dotted by dentil

40. Dentil 49 is directly below the 1 of the denominator. Dentil 71 is above and slightly left of the upright of R. A2 is dotted by dentil 83 and the upright of F is dotted by dentil 90.

Sheldon 23 (6-D), Breen 7 (6-D)



Obverse 85 dentils: Dentil 1 is left of the upright of E as ILE crosses the rim between dentil 1 and dentil 85 without touching either. Dentil 9 practically dots the upright of L. The 7 is dotted by dentil 42. TOP points directly to dentil 54. The first die crack to occur begins at the rim between dentils 53 and 54. It passes through the pole, extends to the throat, passes through the jaw, and eventually bisects the obverse die by passing through the ear, hair, upper edge of the cap finally ending at dentil 12. Exhausting! The second crack from the rim to the upper right tip of the Y begins at dentil 74.

Reverse 101 dentils: ILE2 crosses dentil 1 just right of its center. Dentil 8 dots A1, 25 dots E1, and 31 dots I1. The left upright of U is dotted by dentil 39 and I2 is dotted by dentil 64.

Sheldon 24 (7-D), Breen 8 (7-D)

Obverse 84 dentils: Dentil 1 is over the top left serif of the upright of E as ILE crosses no dentil. Dentil 39 is directly below the 1 while dentil 41 is under and slightly left of the upright of the 7. The famous crack from the rim to the right of the 4 begins between dentils 48 and 49. TOP points to dentil 54.

Reverse 101 dentils: Same as Sheldon 23, Breen 7.

Sheldon 25 (8-E), Breen 15 (11-I)

Obverse 85 dentils: ILE crosses dentil 1 just right of center. Dentils 23, 24, and 25 are unusual. Dentil 23 is quite short and is dwarfed by 22. Dentil 24 is shorter than 25, have no separation between them and are quite joined at the hip. They are a double dentil; sort of Siamese Twins. Dentil 40 is almost centered under the 1. The upright of the 7 points between dentils 42 and 43 while the upright of the 4 points directly between dentils 48 and 49. TOP points between numbers 54 and 55, closer to 55. Dentil 83 dots the upright of R.



Reverse 86 dentils: ILE2 crosses dentil 1 just right of center. Dentil 10 almost centers T2. The extremely rare die crack through D to the leaves of the wreath begins at dentil 18. Dentil 19 almost dots the upright of D. Dentil 61 dots the upright of E3, 63 dots the left upright of M, and 68 dots A2. Now for some “cool stuff”. What appears on many specimens to be a double dentil above the F at dentils 73 and 74 is really not. There are many specimens (*e.g.*, above) with complete separation between them. Dentil fusing (small cud, left) is the culprit.

Sheldon 26 (8-F), Breen 16 (11-J)

Obverse 85 dentils: Same as Sheldon 25, Breen 15.

Reverse 81 dentils: ILE2 crosses dentil 1 very far left of center.. Dentil 7 almost dots A1. Dentil 20 points to the space between E and D. I1 is dotted by dentil 27, A3 is dotted by number 47, 56 dots the upright of R, and 71 dots the upright of F. The first die crack to develop begins between dentils 1 and 81 passing through the center of E2. The second die crack passing through the center of S1 begins at dentil 12. What appears to be a double or triple dentil at A3, the final A in AMERICA, is really dentil fusing. On perfect specimens these dentils are completely separated.



Sheldon 27 (9-G), Breen 9 (8-E)

This is third 1794 variety to have 100 or more dentils on both obverse and reverse.



Obverse 101 dentils: ILE passes through the center of dentil 1. The upright of L is dotted by dentil 12. The famous obverse crack from the rim to the hair begins at dentil 34. Dentil 48 is below and slightly right of the 1. The upright of the 7 points to dentil 50. TOP points directly to dentil 65. The crack that passes through the right side of the die buckling terminates in dentil 76.

Reverse 103 dentils: ILE2 does not cross any dentil, so dentil 1 is completely left of ILE2. Dentil 4 dots T3. Dentil 29 almost dots the upright of T1, dentil 32 dots the upright of I1, and dentil 40 dots the left upright of U. Dentil 69 points to the upright of R and

dentil 89 points to the upright of F.

Sheldon 28 (10-G), Breen 10 (9-E)

This is the fourth and final 1794 variety with 100 or more dentils on both obverse and reverse.

Obverse 100 dentils: ILE crosses dentil 1 left of its center. The I is dotted by dentil 8. Dentil 47 lies below the 1. The upright of the 7 points between dentils 49 and 50. TOP points toward dentil 65. Dentil 90 dots the left branch of Y. As for the cracks on this die that affect dentils, I will identify them in order of appearance. The crack from the rim to the top of the cap starts at dentil 17. The very faint crack at 4:30 begins at dentil 70 and moves into the field. The crack from the rim to the nose starts at dentil 80. A crack develops at the center of dentil 31, moves into the field and joins a crack from the base of the cap. All these cracks are faint which is a shame. They would make for a spectacular display if they were to get thick.

Reverse 103 dentils: Same as Sheldon 27, Breen 9.

Sheldon 29 (10-H), Breen 11 (9-F)

Obverse 100 dentils: Same as Sheldon 28, Breen 10. However another crack starts at dentil 55 and crosses to the leftmost corner of the 4.

Reverse 93 dentils: The dentils on this die are distinctively long and thick and very impressive. ILE2 practically bisects dentil 1. Dentil 21 points to the upright of D while 24 points to the upright of E1. T1 is dotted by 27 and the right upright of U is dotted by dentil 35. Dentil 43 is directly below the 1 of the denominator. The crack through R begins at dentil 62 and dentil 63 dots the upright of the R. Dentil 71 dots the left upright of M and 81 dots the upright of F. See Figure 6.



In the next installment I will continue with the “Heads of ‘94” from Sheldon 30 through 39.

* * * * *

FUGIO COPPER DIES STUDY – PART VII

Michael S. McLaughlin

NEWMAN DIE HH: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIR-
CULAR BAND INCUSED WITH
UNITED ON THE LEFT AND STATES
ON THE RIGHT, SEPARATED BY
TWO INCUSE CINQUEFOILS. WE
ARE ONE IN THREE LINES WITHIN
BAND. FIRST E HIGHER THAN W.
R CLOSER TO SECOND E. N LOWER
THAN D AND TILTS LEFT. BASELINE
OF A POINTS TO I OF UNITED.
RARITY 7

DIE STATES

HH(1) LOT 739 STACK’S 3/75.

STRIKE ORDER

HH(1)-5(1)

NEWMAN DIE JJ: REGIULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCU-
LAR BAND INCUSED WITH UNITED
ON THE LEFT AND STATES ON THE
RIGHT,SEPARATED BY TWO INCUSE
CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE IN THREE
LINES WITH BAND. UPRIGHTS OF W E
REST ON THE R BELOW.RIGHT BASE OF
FIRST E RESTS ON THE UPRIGHT OF
THE E BELOW.LONG LEFT BASE ON A.
MEDAL TURN ?
RARITY 8

DIE STATES

JJ(1)

STRIKE ORDER

JJ(1)-13(1)

NEWMAN DIE K: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCULAR
BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT., SEPARATED BY TWO IN-
CUSE CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE
IN THREE LINES WITHIN BAND.
TOP SERIF OF FIRST E TOUCHES
BAND. SECOND E IS LOW AND FAR
RIGHT. N IS LUMPY DUE TO A
BROKEN PUNCH?.
KNOWN ONLY MEDAL TURN
RARITY 6.



NEWMAN K(3)

DIE STATES

- K(1) FEDRESERVE/RICHMOND
- K(2) DIE CHIP: N OF ONE
- K(3) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 260 DE-
GREES TO JUNCTURE OF
LINKS TEN AND ELEVEN.
- K(4) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN 15.
LOT 2443 NASCA 4/81.
- K(5) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 340 DE-
GREES INTO OUTSIDE OF
LINK ONE.



NEWMAN K(4)

STRIKE ORDER

- | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| K(1)-15(2) | K(3)-15(3) | K(5)-15(3) |
| | CL-CL | FAILURE- |
| K(2)-15(2) | | |
| CHIP- | K(4)-15(3) | |
| | CLASH- | |

NEWMAN DIE KK: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCULAR
BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT, SEPARATED BY TWO INCUSE
CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE IN THREE
LINES WITHIN BAND. FIRST E DOES
NOT TOUCH BAND. ARE AND ONE
VERY CLOSE. PERFECT N. BOTTOM
CINQUEFOIL UNDER MIDDLE OF E.
VARIETY KK-12 RARITY 6
VARIETY KK-13 RARITY 7



NEWMAN KK(2)

DIE STATES

KK(1)

KK(2) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 140 DE-
GREES OPPOSITE LINK SIX,
SEMICIRCULAR IN CONFIGU-
RATION, TOUCHING LINKS
SEVEN AND EIGHT, THEN
ONWARD TO RIM AT 200 DE-
GREES. LOT 2435 NASCA 4/81.

STRIKE ORDER

KK(1)-12(1) KK(2)-12(1) KK(2)-13(1)
BREAK-

NEWMAN DIE L: REGULAR DIE
 CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
 LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
 PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
 COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
 WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCU-
 BAND INCUSED WITH STATES ON
 THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
 RIGHT, SEPARATED BY TWO IN-
 CUSED CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE
 ONE IN THREE LINES WITHIN BAND.
 W AND FIRST AND THIRD E TOUCH
 BAND A SPACED LEFT OF R. CIN-
 QUEFOIL UNDER MIDDLE OF E.
 RARITY 5



NEWMAN L(1)

DIE STATES

L(1) LOT 2409 NASCA 4/81.

L(2) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN 1.

STRIKE ORDER

L(1)-1(3) L(2)-1(4)
 CL-CL

NEWMAN DIE LL: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCULAR
BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT, SEPARATED BY TWO INCUSED
CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE IN THREE
LINES WITHIN BAND. LETTERS OF WE
TOUCH BAND. SPACING OF LETTERS
INSIDE BAND IS UNIFORM. ALL LINKS
SHOW DOUBLING, ESPECIALLY LINKS
ONE, TWO, NINE, TEN, ELEVEN, TWELVE
AND THIRTEEN.

RARITY 6



NEWMAN LL(1)

DIE STATES

LL(1) PAGE 537 COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

STRIKE ORDER

LL(1)-12(1) LL(2)-12(2)

CL-CL

* * * * *



Denis Loring

253

WB		HRN-ANA '49:1792	
	<u>1846 N10</u>	J. P. Young-WHS-TJC-REN-EJS-WAR 107-SDC TJC 335-Norweb 2959-JRF Williams 502- EAC '86:271-RSB	
	<u>1846 N21</u>	Elder 6/11:1361-Ryder 924-FS 497- Heritage 5/90:608-RSB-DWH-RSB	spot before brow
	<u>1846 N22</u> - proof only	Ruby I:1623-Par FPL, 1976-7-Par 11/78:29- QDB FPL 5/80-QDB 4/81:3021-RSB-DWH Picker 1955-WCB-REN-EJS-DL-JRF 1354-#309 RSB:1064-RT-SDC FS 498-Ivy 5/90:609-DL-RSB-WAR 122-JRF 1355-AJT Smithsonian Mougey 244-Sleicher 1136-SHC AD 872-JJP AD 873-JJP JJP cased set Balboa, CA bank Miller 960 Mickley 2054-Mackenzie 695-Mason Bushnell 2722-Cogan Winsor 982-Hall McCoy 735-Zanoni Woodward 10/81:349 Collins set-Beckwith 104-SHC Parmelee 1177	spot right of *8, stain at ICA spot l of *11 spot above *2 small spots before brow, left of *10 spots between l and *1 spot above *2 "A2" dull surfaces
	<u>1846 N24</u> - proof only	Cleneay 839-Mougey 1272-Beckwith 106-Morgan 352- TJC-REN-RSB-DWH AD 874-FS 499-REN-EJS-WAR 124-SDC	spots tip of nose, field before eye small spots @ *4, above *12, mark before nose

<u>60</u>		P64BNX	NN 51:1258-TAD 154-JHB FPL, 12/91-REN	spot before chin
<u>55</u>	<u>55</u>		R. C. Davis 2631-M. A. Brown 943-Earle 3565-	nicks at *3, above eye
PF		P63RB	F 661-TJC 336-RSB 1065-M&G 7/94:260-JRF 1357-AJT	
PF			Morgan 353	
PF			Mougey 245-Beckwith-H. Chapman	
<u>1847 N42</u> - proof only				
<u>65/4</u>	<u>65DNB</u>	P65RB	Mougey 247-Raymond 4/11:155-Ryder 925-	small spot left of *6
			RWY-B&M 8/99:33-SDC	
63	<u>64</u>	P65BN	TR-(SUP 5/03:963)	gold speck over oNe
63	<u>62</u>		Beckwith 107-Morgan 361-TJC 340-A82:1526-	stains at 18
			RSB 1128-A87:6-WD-DL-RSB-RT-SDC	
<u>63</u>			Smithsonian	defects between nose and ear
<u>60±</u>	<u>63</u>		ANA '77:439-RSB-DWH	rim mark below 8
<u>60±</u>	<u>60</u>	P63BN	Parnelee 1186-Mougey 248-Norweb 2965-	stain at *11-12, clnd per DNB
			JRF 1437-AJT	
<u>60±</u>	<u>60+</u>		FS 549-AJT-G. Sanders	
<u>60/4</u>	<u>63MB</u>	N64RB	Garrett 192-REN-EJS-WAR 187-(Her 8/06:5046)-	rim mark below *1, rim flaw at *13
			(Her 5/07:13028)-Her 7/07:24110	
<u>55</u>			AD 898-JJP 249-Matthews	rim cuts at K-4,9,11
	<u>60</u>		Pierce 129-REN-RSB	scratch on edge
60+			F 676 as A8-TJC 341-ANA '58:566-	spot above *2
			Kagin 9/80:196-Kagin 10/82:213	
PF			QDB 2/77:49	flat struck on ear, elsewhere
PF			Mackenzie 696-Mason	
PF			McCoy 737-Hodge	

1848 N3

not proof

Stack's 6/91:1626-Paul

spot at *10

1848 N19 - proof only64 64 P64RB

SHC 4/03:143-Earle 3574-Ryder 927-RWY-B&M 8/99:35-G. Gardner

reverse red

64 64

ANA '49:1843-A86:1536-RT-SDC

spot above *11, oNe

63+ 63+

Davis-Graves 1761-FS 575-REN

flan chip over eyebrow

63 63

Garrett 194-Stack's 3/83:837-HH 613-JRF 1474-T. Denman

63 63 N66BN

FS 574-WAR 211-SUP 2/99:2292-Kierstead

spot below *3

63 63 P64RB

S. Levine-Contursi

spots on cheek

63 55DNB

Zug 1127-B 108-M 363-TJC 346 as A-8-Lahrman 448-Kagin 10/83:1162-SUP 5/89:5016-Rare Coin Investments of St. Louis

spot before throat, clnd per DNB

60+

HH-WHS-TJC 345-A80:1082-DL-RSB-DWH

spot below ear

60+ 60

RSB 1159-Kopald

60+

Smithsonian

defect on eyebrow

55 50

Mougey 254-Norweb 2969-RSB-WAR-REM

rim nick below 4

50 60

W. Raymond 11/45:211-JJP 250-D. Nagle-SUP 9/99:555-CVM

encrusted at *6, edge dent at *4

63+

Neil 2110-REN-EJS-G

lite area at *6

63MB

P. Kaufman-Her 8/06:5047-(Her 11/28/06:13010)-(Her 7/07:51)-Sup 1/09:18

scr hair to E, two others

60

Parmelee 1195-(Her 11/04:5140)-Her 2/05:5171-Goldberg 2/07:846-#442

cleaned

60

Goldberg 2/08:1607-Adam

nick on chin

55DNB

Kagin 11/46:265-Stack's 11/08:3095

specks bet. *3-4, below 8; obv.red

30

Borcherdt-JRF-TRW

spot at bust point

64

NN 51:1262-Stack's 3/06:3600-Sperber

edge dent 12:30 obverse

63

SUP 99/7:131-AJT

60+

TJC-B&M 11/97:118-B&M 8/99:34-Lipton

63

SUP 5/90:3385-Briggs

P64RB

B&M 6/01:105

rim spot left of l

P64RB

Summit Rare Coins 8/01

N65BN

Delaware Valley CW ad 5/02

P64BN	Riordan-(Goldberg 6/02:1921)-(Sup 9/08:69)	spot above first S
P64RB	Her 7/02:5924	
P64RB	NE Numis NN ad 7/02	“full red obv.”
WB	Morris-TJC 347-Kagin-Goldberg 2/07:846	
WB	AD 911	
WB	AD 912-Kosoff	spot over head
WB	AD 913-WCB	reverse cleaned
PF	ANA '60:2092	
PF	Mougey 252-HC	
PF	Mougey 253-HC	
PF	Mackenzie 697-Cohen	
PF	R. C. Davis 2634	
PF	Miller 975	
PF	Allenburger 1074	
PF	LM 2/72:73-Cunningham's 6/81:37	called "N20"
PF	Sawicki 718	
PF	Morgan 364	
PF	Chapman 2/80:243	
PF	Sargent 632-Wurtzbach	
PF	Bushnell 2726	
PF	Cleneay 1921	
PF	Winsor 985-Collins	
PF	H. P. Smith 1177	"smeared"
PF	Zabriskie 871	spot below *7-8
PF	Bement 397	lower right obverse field dark
PF	Mccoy 740-Hodge	
PF	Mickley 2057-Crosby	
PF	Finotti 874-Wiggin	
PF	Woodward 4/86:765a	
PF	Cogan 4/77:802	
PF	Cogan 10/75:1974	
1849 N18 - proof only		
<u>64</u>	AD 930-TAD 165-REN-EJS-DL-SDC	stain at *10, weak strike
<u>64</u>	AD 931-WCB-REN-Ruttenberg-DL-RSB-DWH	spot on *6
<u>64</u>	NN 51:1267-S. Levine-AJT	spot over M
P64RD		

64		Christie's 12/91:325- S. Levine	red, many flecks
63	63	HRN 476-FS 618-EAC '90:399-DL-RT-Stack's 3/96:34-DFB-SUP 2/98:1260	spot under *4, lint mark above head lt. areas above *2, coronet pt.
63		Del. Valley RC CW ad 7/02	spots over *5, on jaw
60+	62	S. Levine-WAR 273-#212	spot at *2
60+	60+	Mougey 255-Norweb 2975-JRF 1545-AJT	spot above *3
60+	65	Garrett 195-Kagin FPL, 4/83	rim flaw over AM
60		Sergio Sanchez 8/01	nick on nose, ear flat
50		ANA'49:1865-JJP 253-Matthews	spot touching top of bun
		Allenburger 1084-Stack's 11/08:3096	lt. areas above *2, coronet pt.
63		Del. Valley RC CW ad 7/02	spots above and left of *13
	60	(Her 4/08:101)	spot bet. bust point and 1
		Stack's 1/09:84	spot below *4
64		Holmes 1639-Stack's 3/06:3602-Stack's 10/06:2566-book edge filed over *4	spot below *11
WB		Mougey 256-B 109-M 368-TJC 358-Lahrman 452	
WB		Hollinbeck FPL, 1945:131-TJC 357-QDB	
PF		Stack's 9/02:1022	spot at *1
PF		Kagin 10/77:143	
PF		QDB FPL, 1977-QDB 11/77:2104-QDB FPL, 1978	spot at *9
PF		Morgan 369	
PF		Stickney 1646	
PF		M. A. Brown 953-Earle 3577-Wurtzbach	lower left obverse field dark
PF		Jackman 825-HCH	
PF		Parmelee 1205	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		Miller 978	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		Wetmore 680	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		Mickley 2058-Mackenzie 698-Smith	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		Bushnell 2728-Cogan	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		Cleneay 1923	"smeared"
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		Winsor 986-Chapmans	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		McCoy 741-Hodge	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>		Pierce 131	

EAC REGION 3 MEETING, BALTIMORE, JUNE 19

Greg Fitzgibbon

An EAC Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting was held in Baltimore on June 19th. At 1PM Region 3 chairman Brett Dudek called the meeting to order. There were 13 members in attendance, as follows:

Donald Neiman	Wayne Homren	Ed Fox
Frank Goss	Rick Beale	John Saia
Bill Eckberg	Mike Packard	Brett Dudek
Bill McMahon	Greg Fitzgibbon	John Dirnbauer
	Greg Heim	

As is customary, Brett started the meeting by introducing himself and mentioning what his collecting interests are. Everyone in attendance then did the same.

At this point Brett opened up the floor for any comments. Greg Heim related a story of a recent sale he hosted on eBay. Greg frequently has various items up for bidding but one recent transaction got his attention. [Editor's Note: Greg wrote up this experience for the July *P-W*. See page 221 of that issue.]

Bill Eckberg then wanted to say a few words about the recent EAC convention held in Annapolis and hosted by Region 3. He wanted to congratulate Brett for a job well done. Like the last meeting held in Annapolis, it was very well attended and he had heard a lot of positive comments about the event. There were around 400 people who signed in at the registration table and at least 15 members who were attending their first EAC convention. Brett acknowledged that he had a good amount of support from a number of members. Bill served as bourse chairman and Mark and Nikki Switzer did an outstanding job handling the Sale lot viewing. Brett also began plugging the next year's convention to be held in Portland, OR and the 2012 meeting to be held in Buffalo, NY. As the details fall into place they will be publicized in *P-W*.

Ed Fox then passed around his acquisitions from the most recent Dan Holmes sale. Ed has added a number of very nice pieces and some interesting die states to his collection and they were great to see up close.

Greg Fitzgibbon had recently acquired a small stash of counterfeit half cents off eBay from a source in Hong Kong. A few examples of an "1808/7 half cent" were passed around, along with some high magnification photos showing characteristics that indicate they came from the same source. The coins that were passed around were examples as they appear directly from the source, and how they appear after spending a few weeks as pocket change. The coins are not bad copies but as struck they should not fool anyone – they simply don't look right. However, it may be possible that they could fool people not familiar with early coppers if they were aged with bag marks or treated chemically to hide some of the tell tale signs.

Another topic of conversation was the upcoming ANA meeting in Boston. A few members present plan on attending the show. Mike Packard will be giving a talk on Massachusetts coppers and Bill Eckberg will be part of a panel discussion on the early operations of the mint. Brett also mentioned that Pierre Fricke of the Society of Paper Money Collectors has extended the offer to share a table at the convention. The purpose of the table is to lay out some material that would describe EAC and have volunteers talk to people about our organization and maybe sign up a few new members. So if you are planning on attending the convention and would like to take a break from the bourse and chat to prospective new members please think about volunteering.

The last topic of discussion was the upcoming sale in September featuring the large cent errors from the Dan Holmes collection and a set of selected half cent errors from the Davy collection. Everyone is awaiting the catalog to see what sort of goodies it will contain.

At 2PM Brett adjourned the meeting.

* * * * *

ANNUAL GARVIN COMMITTEE REPORT

Chuck Heck and John Kraljevich

During 2009 interest earned on the Garvin donation was approximately \$530.00. Low interest rates have significantly impacted earnings. The total Garvin balance as of June 2010 is approximately \$54,600.00.

In 2010 EAC awarded two \$1,000.00 scholarships to deserving individuals. The digital projector has more than paid for itself since the 2009 convention and continues to save us money with each use.

Please note that the filing deadline for a 2011 Garvin Scholarship and/or a 2011 Garvin Research Grant is November 30, 2010. Each year EAC can award up to two \$1,000.00 Garvin Scholarships and up to \$500.00 per Garvin Grant.

If you are interested, please complete the appropriate application and submit them before the deadline. Both applications are included in this issue of *P-W*. Contact information is at the bottom of each application.

* * * * *

GARVIN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION - 2011

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

EAC# _____ Date Joined EAC _____

1. What class, seminar, conference, etc. will you be attending? Where and when will it be held? Please attach a flyer, application, or any documentation regarding the class, seminar, conference, etc.
2. Please indicate and document how you have shared your numismatic knowledge with others. Possible instances can include:
 - a. Giving a presentation to a non-numismatic entity, ex. A school, community service organization, home for the aged, Boy or Girl Scouts, etc.
 - b. Presenting a program or seminar at a coin club or coin show.
 - c. Writing articles for local, regional, or national numismatic publications.
 - d. Service in leadership positions for local, regional, or national numismatic clubs or organizations.
 - e. Volunteer work for local, regional, or national numismatic clubs or organizations in an effort to insure a successful specific program or show.
3. By signing this application, you agree that should you receive an EAC _____ Scholarship you will prepare and submit an original article to *Penny-Wise* concerning the subject matter discussed at the class or seminar. Such article will be due no later than four (4) months from the end of such class or seminar.
4. This application must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2010 to be considered for the calendar year 2011.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail this application to either:

John Kraljevich, PO Box 237188, New York, NY 10023-7188 or:

Chuck Heck, PO Box 3498, Lantana, FL 33465-3498.

GARVIN RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION - 2011

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

EAC# _____ Date Joined EAC _____

1. Please submit documentation showing the nature of the research being conducted and its direct relation to early American copper.
2. Please submit original documents (to be returned) showing clearly the nature and amount of such expenditures that relate directly to the research being conducted.
3. By signing this application, you agree that should you receive an EAC grant you will prepare and submit an original article to *Penny-Wise* that summarizes yet details the research project and its conclusions. Such article will be due no later than four (4) months from the receipt of the grant.
4. This application must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2010 to be considered for the calendar year 2011.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail this application to either:

John Kraljevich, PO Box 237188, New York, NY 10023-7188 or:

Chuck Heck, PO Box 3498, Lantana, FL 33465-3498.



TIME TO CONSIGN: to THE 2011 EAC SALE

Our consignment cut off is Jan. 15, 2011 but the sale often fills up before then.

Our commission rates are more than competitive:

A 10% buyer's fee

A seller's fee of: 0% on consignments that average \$500 or more.

5% if the average lot value is \$100-\$499

10% if the average lot value is \$100 or less

Consignors may place a reserve on select lots prior to the sale. The fee for repurchasing a lot is 5%.

**Our catalog creation team of
Bob Grellman, Chris McCawley,
and Shawn Yancey is surely
among the best.**

**(The Numismatic Literary Guild agrees
having awarded the
Auction Catalog of the Year Award
to M & G's Dan Holmes I catalog!)**

The audience for the EAC Sale
is undoubtedly the best:

Your fellow EAC members!

Best of all,
proceeds from the EAC Sale
go to **support** your favorite
numismatic organization:

The Early American Coppers Club!

Please send your consignments to:

Chris McCawley
P.O. Box 5250
Frisco, TX 75035
972-668-1575

Bob Grellman
P.O. Box 161055
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716
407-682-9592

Shawn Yancey
P.O. Box 2731
Springfield, MO 65801
417-890-6569

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of *Penny-Wise*. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the Membership Committee before the November issue of *P-W*, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the Membership Committee is Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215.

<i>Name</i>	<i>City, State</i>	<i>Member Number</i>
Randy Snyder	North Pole, AK	5907
Fred Colberg	Arnold, MO	5910

* * * * *

AN UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY FOR MY 800th VARIETY: 1800-S198 (R5+) COPPER CENT

Howard Spencer Pitkow

For those of the readership who have been following my large cent variety quest in *P-W*, I am happy to give another update and officially announce that I have finally attained and surpassed the 800-variety benchmark milestone. As of this 12th publication for *P-W*, I now have 810 varieties. My large cent distribution as of this writing consists of 205 early dates, 240 middle dates and 365 late dates. My 14 delisted varieties are excluded from these totals. (As a side note, I am holding steady with 62 varieties of half cents as per my May, 2009 paper for *P-W*).

This represents an increase of 17 varieties from my November, 2009 article (Vol. XLIII, No.6, Issue #255) where I discussed and analyzed my 793 large cents. Some of the increases include four late dates. Two of these are an 1847 N36 (R5+) which I purchased from Herb Brunhofer and an 1848 N33 (R5) obtained at the EAC Convention Sale held in Annapolis. The other two late dates were obtained from Rod Burress—an 1848 N44 (R6-) and an 1850 N20 (R5+). However, most of the increases occurred in my early date collection where I acquired many 1796 varieties including a 1796-S103 (R4+) (LIHERTY) from Chris Young as well as an 1801-S218 (R5+) (3 error variety) from Jim Young on the bourse floor in Annapolis. Additionally, I found a 1798-S149 (R4+) at the Baltimore Expo (Whitman Show) held in March, 2010. I am still seeking to procure four varieties each for 1797 (S121a, S122, S125, S129) and 1798 (S144, S156, S178, S180) in order to complete these two date sets.

In previous articles for *P-W*, I have reported various finds and discoveries. A couple of these were the accidental cherrypick of a 1797 NC-5 copper (November, 2008) and the discovery of an 1851 contemporary cast counterfeit cent (July, 2008). The main focus of this paper is to give an

account of the series of events that enabled me to acquire my 800th variety—an 1800-S198 (R5+) copper.

By now, the membership is probably well aware that I attend several local coin club/bourse events per month plus many regional and national coin shows. In March of this year, I attended the Tri-State Regional meeting held in Fort Washington, PA., which meets on the fourth Sunday of each month. Here, I visited several coin dealer tables on the bourse and carefully inspected their assortments of large cents. There are three dealers at this meeting whom I routinely seek out since they always have new inventory to show me each month. This time, there was nothing that caught my interest at their tables. I must admit that I was a little disappointed.

As I haphazardly meandered around and perused some of the other tables with little focus and purpose, I noticed that an unfamiliar dealer had been added to the bourse. When I walked over to his table to introduce myself I noticed that he had four junk boxes in his display. To my surprise and amazement one of these boxes contained only large cents. I couldn't believe my eyes. After eyeballing the box I made a quick estimate that there was between 75 and 100 unattributed large cents. What a treasure-trove! While engaging the dealer in conversation I ascertained that his uncle bequeathed to him these large cents and other numismatic treasures in his will. As I looked over his inventory I could tell that he was not a copper dealer. His cases consisted mainly of Morgan and Peace dollars with a sprinkling of U.S. gold coins. After obtaining his permission I carefully scrutinized these coppers. Most of them were middle and late dates. At this juncture in my numismatic career, I am concentrating on my early date varieties. Since I have the advanced stages of PCCDS (Pathological Compulsive Copper Disease Syndrome) I decided to purchase all nine of his early date cents at a fair and reasonable price. These unattributed low-grade coppers consisted of three 1800's, two 1801's and four 1802's. After negotiating this transaction I decided to leave the bourse since my wife and I had an early commitment.

Fast forward to the following Thursday evening. After having a leisurely dinner I decided to retire to my upstairs office. ("Office" he says. Actually, it is a converted fourth bedroom with a desk and book shelves). My routine is to pick a quiet evening or early morning where I can isolate myself for several hours with numismatic books (Sheldon, Noyes, Wright, Newcomb, Grellman, Breen, etc.) and the rest of my library. I then line up my newly purchased coppers chronologically by date at the top of my desk. Next, I systematically move down the line of coppers where I proceed to net grade and attribute each of the cents. This is a very time consuming effort—at least it is for this numismatist. I am one of those people who always loved and had an "eye" for detail. I feel like a detective (i.e., Sherlock Holmes) when attributing each coin. I relish the challenge of solving a mystery (i.e., attribution). The combination of being detail oriented plus eye-textbook coordination is very essential in this demanding process. If I find that I am having a problem with a copper I will stop and get a good night's sleep. I will then attack the problem the next morning when I am fresh and motivated. I am not adverse to seeking

a second opinion, especially with R5 and R6 cents—sometimes just to reconfirm my attribution. Of course, if the diagnostics are obvious to me I will not even bother.

After the attribution process I record the pertinent data for each copper on their own individual index card. These cards are then sequentially filed by both their Sheldon/ Newcomb numbers and by early, middle and late date categories. Some of the relevant information recorded on each card includes:

- 1- date of coin
- 2- grade based on details
- 3- net grade
- 4- Sheldon/ Newcomb number
- 5- Rarity rating
- 6- detailed statements based on the coin's features and diagnostics
- 7- name of dealer
- 8- date purchased
- 9- price paid

The key diagnostic features which separate out the varieties from one another are always underlined for emphasis. I store these index cards in shoe boxes away from my large cent collections. This information serves as a valuable reference for each and every variety.

After this slight diversion on my methodology used for the attribution and data collection process, let me continue. Eight of the nine coppers were common varieties that I already had in my collection. However, one of the 1800 cents proved to “attribute out” as the rare S198 (R5+) with G6 details and a little micro-corrosion. With this in mind I determined that the net grade was actually a G4. This was a very exciting event for me since at the time this was my 800th variety. What an exhilarating and unexpected discovery!

For the early dates I use both Sheldon's *Penny Whimsy* and Noyes' *United States Large Cents*. I especially like the excellent photographs in the second book. My copper cent demonstrated the following 1800-S198 diagnostics, which I quote from Sheldon's *Penny Whimsy*:

Obverse: “Date even and wide. Point of 1 very close to curl. Right top of 1 rounded and adjacent to the rounded area there is a chip out of the die; also a small defect at the upper right side of first 0.”

Reverse: “Short, rather jagged break connecting the 1 of the denominator to the left ribbon immediately above it. The break touches the point of the 1, runs along the left side of the figure and peters out between the bottom of the 1 and the rim. Fraction bar short. All berries have very short stems. Lowest pair of berries on the right stemless and welded directly to the very thick wreath stem. Third and fourth outside right pair of leaves stemless and welded directly to the wreath stem. Chips are out of the die between 100 and end of right ribbon”.

As previously noted in my publications, I have an affinity for the 1800-1803 cent variety series. I find their range of diagnostic features and errors to be very fascinating and diverse. With

the purchase of the 1801-S218 mentioned earlier, and the accidental cherrypick of the above discussed 1800-S198, my 800th variety, I now have 74 of the 76 varieties in this group. Of course, this total excludes the 14 non-collectibles (NC's). In order to complete this date set I still need to acquire the 1801-S217 (R6+) and the 1803-S264 (R4+).

This obviously will be a very formidable task based on their availability and cost. I must also point out that I felt pretty much the same way about my prospects of obtaining the S198 and S218. The lesson to be learned here is that you never know what might come your way and become available through diligent searching, patience, dumb luck, and time.

* * * * *

X

James Higby

Summer is the time of several of our greatest coin shows and conventions. This is not surprising, as ice and snow are now out of the picture, and the road just seems more open and welcoming. Such were my thoughts as I made the decision in July to attend the Missouri Numismatic Society show at the very accommodating St. Charles Convention Center. My good copper friend Chuck Hall would be in attendance as well, and we always make it a point to get together, if not for a meal, at least at the show concession stand, for good copper conversation and fellowship.

How convenient, practically within walking distance of the Center is a Cracker Barrel, one of Chuck's and my favorite watering holes. That would be the venue that evening for our *après-show* get-together. Poor Chuck, I am sure that he knows in advance that he will once again have to endure, with stoical good grace, the rantings and ravings of his interlocutor, who, once he gets into high gear, is more like a madman playing the role of Faust in some B-grade *pièce de théâtre*.

Fairly often we will reprise a topic that had come up earlier in the day as we sat at the table of one EAC dealer or another, always favorite locales for copper types to congregate. The issue on this particular day centered upon the general idea, "When it comes time to sell all this copper, are we going to be taken advantage of by an unsympathetic and unappreciative market that doesn't love these coins like we did?" In other words, "Why do two grown men, who fancy themselves the eternal rationalists, nevertheless spend good money wantonly (our Sainted Wives might thus describe our activities, assuming that we even make full disclosure of what we do at these shows and auctions) on pieces of cold, dark metal that most people would find not at all esthetic or attractive?" I mean, after all, those large cent heads hardly reflect the pinnacle of feminine pulchritude!

It was Chuck who first ventured onto the minefield of the topic at hand. It seems that each of us had recently made copper purchases, and we agreed to exchange the identities and fiscal

details of our buys without censure. At this point our collecting interests do not overlap, Chuck specializing in middle dates and I in colonials. He had bought more than one coin, I only one. Our cash outlays were of similar magnitude. To keep the accounting simple, I will arbitrarily assign \$1000 as the amount that we individually spent on our hobby.

A thousand dollars! What if? What if, for example, the coin market suddenly collapsed for whatever reason, and the market values of our coins were reduced to zero practically overnight?

“How much did we each lose?” I brazenly queried.

“Well, we each lost a grand!” was Chuck’s assessment of the tragedy.

“Not so fast!” said I. “There’s more to the equation than the bottom line. For example, you must take ‘X’ into consideration.”

“What do you mean, ‘X’?”

“‘X’ represents a quantity that each of us defines according to his own philosophy of monetary issues in general and collecting in particular. For instance, when you attended that Dan Holmes auction, what kinds of activities did you engage in?”

“It was really exciting to sit there in a room full of copper enthusiasts talking copper, and who had, each and every one, a goal of acquiring copper.”

“Was it exciting to raise your hand when one of your targeted lots came across the block?”

“It most certainly was! Experiencing the adrenaline rush that accompanies an auction in the round defies description.”

“And was it pleasurable to win something for your collection, knowing that, upon arrival back home with your new treasure, you would be carving that next notch in your collecting log and crossing that coin off your want list?”

Chuck is used to this sort of persistent interrogation by me and patiently tolerates it, bless his heart. Nor had his eyes yet glazed over, as do the eyes of so many of my victims by this point in the dialogue.

“Of course, it’s the thrill of the chase that is a positive part of collecting in its own right. Buying coins gives pleasure, but likewise so should eventually selling those coins bring pleasure.”

“Were there any other sights and sounds that remain in your mind?”

“I realized that I was in the company of some of the greatest copper minds in the world. At the banquet I was flanked by people that I normally would only read about in *Penny-Wise*. That’s a pretty big deal for me.”

As a former teacher, I could not help but ask at this point, “And did you come away from that banquet with any new learning, any new experience, any new attitude, any new point of view?”

I'll bet you didn't just sit there and feed your face. I'll bet you struck up conversations with some of the luminaries in attendance."

"You bet! I feel that my numismatic knowledge and appreciation have taken a giant leap forward as a result. This is not something that normally occurs through interaction with co-workers or golf buddies. My horizons were broadened in several directions. I now understand where the numbers in *CQR* come from, for example. In his book Jack Robinson often comments that such-and-such coin sold for such-and-such money at such-and-such sale, but now I've actually verified that that is how it works."

"When you get together with copper folks, there is already a bond among you," I observed. "Sometimes the primary pleasure I get from attendance at a coin show is the camaraderie I enjoy when I get together with other copper people, be they collectors or dealers. Conversation just comes easily and naturally, whether the topic is petite heads, b-girls (*i.e.*, those 1794 half cents which have a particular feature about their edge lettering!), or Connecticuts. These are not just casual relationships, such as you experience on the golf course or at the laboratory, but real feelings of friendship, fostered by the lore and scholarship inherent in studying copper."

"No kidding, the Corporate Culture is bug-eat-bug. No matter where you are on the office food chain, you have to be constantly on the watch. Those guys can be slapping your back one minute and sticking the knife in it the next. EAC people aren't like that, even when they're competing for an auction lot. Once the hammer falls, they move on and remain friends."

"OK," I interjected, now ready to consummate my line of questioning. "Let's call the aggregate of all those experiences, activities, friendships, education, and memories 'X', and let's see if we can assign a monetary value to 'X'."

I purposely did not wait for a rejoinder, but pressed on: "Regardless of the number that you might assign to 'X', it represents benefits accrued to you and only you in the way that you and only you choose to define them. I would not propose to establish that value for you, nor to critique your method of determining it, but it is real. So, when your \$1000 'investment' in copper suddenly drops to zero market value, how much have you lost?"

"I guess it would be \$1000 minus 'X'," came the answer, the very answer I had hoped to elicit at the outset of my roundabout pursuit of Numismatic Truth and Beauty.

"Precisely!" I roared. "And what if 'X' is actually more than \$1000 by your own reckoning? Doesn't that indicate that you came out ahead in spite of a hosed market?"

"I never looked at it that way, but it seems very reasonable to do so."

"One more thing."

"What's that?"

“Isn’t ‘X’ the only way that a rational person can justify spending good money on coins? And isn’t ‘X’ the real reason that we engage in numismatics in the first place? After all, without ‘X’, what good is all that copper, really?”

“James, you are a true collector!”

“Aw, shucks.”

Your Humble Author acknowledges that certain Estimable Spouses would likely remain unimpressed by such husbandry of data, but, in the final analysis, that sort of husbandry is what makes people want to buy, own, and sell copper. Without ‘X’ there would be no hobby, no market, and no fun.

* * * * *

THE SEEMINGLY 'CENTS'LESS COLLECTOR

Greg Heim

"CAN SOMEONE PLEASE FIND ME AN ELECTRCIAN?"

With regards to the numismatic community and the EAC community in particular, each of us has the ability to bring something to the table to expand our club's membership. Some of know what that ability is, and some of us are unsure. Make no mistake, each and every person has it.

To me, the ways to expand EAC are simple: 1) A much better presence on the Internet, and 2) Making the step up to intermediate and advanced numismatics more achievable for other collectors of early copper.

As far as the website is concerned, I have spoken to Tom Deck, and he is doing a nice job in working on an update. You do not have to be the sharpest tool in the shed to realize that a revamped and more interactive website can do nothing but provide EAC with a better outlook to the future.

As far as the second part is concerned, that can be a bit challenging. Obviously, there is a wide gap between beginners and intermediate/advanced collectors of early copper. Loosely defined, I consider intermediate collectors those who have solid "Red Book" knowledge and very little beyond that. My definition of advanced collectors would be collectors of die varieties, die states, etc.

Narrowing this gap is vital not only for the survival of EAC, but it helps the membership in not becoming stagnant. The bottom line is that cultivating intermediate and advanced collectors increases the probability that when it comes time to sell our coins, there will be strong demand for them. Academically, the benefits are even greater, because it maintains the legacy of the pursuit we all know and love.

So how does an individual "pitch in" and do their part? The very first step is, do not get intimidated by other members. I am sure that despite whatever experience we have had in this hobby, you have felt like the dolt in the room more once in your lifetime. To use a term in poker, "if you are at the table and you cannot find the fish, chances are that it's you." These feelings should not dissuade you in your pursuit. They should only make you want to learn more.

Personally, figuring out what I could bring to the table was very challenging. Not that long ago, my handyman was running a new electrical line for the installation of a new dishwasher. It was then that I put two and two together and made a comparison to the wiring in my home to the wiring in my brain.

My situation is, that the wiring in my brain is very (and I mean VERY) different than just about everyone else. In people with Asperger's such as me, the wiring not only presents itself with a wide variety of problems, but it also presents itself with a wide variety of gifts. It is important to note that the gap in between the problems and gifts is much wider than for a typical person, as well as being more complex. For years, I struggled to find out what my gifts were regarding numismatics in general and EAC in particular. Surprisingly, the answer was right in front of my face. Afterward, I realized how these gifts could help in recruiting new members AND giving them a greater chance at becoming intermediate and advanced numismatists.

Even though I have given presentations at EAC Conventions and all over the country for over 25 years, it was not until I started writing this column that I realized that this was my way of doing my part to increase (and hopefully sustain) EAC's membership. Now, you may be asking yourself a question: How can you accomplish that feat when you sort of need to be a member of the club in order to read your material? The answer is easy: I share my thoughts and ideas with regards to copper and general numismatics everywhere I go, not just within the club. What I found is that I have a semi-unique way of making people think of the hobby. By making collectors think about subjects that they would not have given a second thought to, it forces them to be very introspective. In addition, it also forces each collector to give his or her knowledge a chance to evolve. Therefore, it serves a dual purpose for EAC and the individual. For 35 years, this way of thinking has served me rather well in one capacity or another and it will serve me well for the rest of my life.

So there you have it. I figured out my purpose. The wiring mystery has been solved. It just proves that if I can do it, so can you. Here's to making EAC the best it can be!



Chronological Listing of NJ Copper Census Published in Penny Wise Sept 1990 to Nov 2003

Compiled by Ray Williams 9/9/2010

Author	Page	Topic	P-W Issue
John Grifffee	282	New Jersey Coppers: The Maris 41-c	Sept 1990
John Grifffee	348	New Jersey Coppers: The Maris 57-n	Nov 1990
John Grifffee	11	New Jersey Coppers: Maris 47-e	Jan 1991
John Grifffee	56	New Jersey Coppers, Part IV: Maris40-b	Mar 1991
John Grifffee	192	New Jersey Coppers, Part V:Maris 71-y	Jul 1991
John Grifffee	22	New Jersey Coppers: M-41c Updated	Jan 1992
John Lorenzo, John Grifffee, and Bill Anton	86	New Jersey Copper Condition Census Ratings	Mar 1992
John Lorenzo, with John Grifffee and Bill Anton	179	N.J. Copper Condition Census Ratings	May 1992
John Grifffee	182	N.J. Coppers, Part Six: Maris 35-j	May 1992
John Grifffee	86	New Jersey Coppers Update	Mar 1993
John Grifffee	177	NJ. Coppers, Part 7:Maris 11-H and 36J	May 1993
John Grifffee	260	N. J. Coppers, Part 9:Maris 15-U	Jul 1993
John Grifffee	330	N.J. Copper CC: Maris 18-N	Sept 1993
John Grifffee	424	NJ Coppers: Part 11, Maris 34v	Nov 1993
John Grifffee	12	New Jersey Coppers, Part 12:Maris 18-J	Jan 1994
John Grifffee	86	New Jersey Coppers, Part 13, M-64u	Mar 1994
John Grifffee	88	New Jersey Coppers, Part 14, M-22P	Mar 1994
John Grifffee	136	New Jersey Coppers: Maris 51g	May 1994
John Grifffee	228	NJ Coppers, Part 16:Maris 42-c	July 1994
John Grifffee	288	N. J. Coppers: 16J, 27j	Sept 1994
John Grifffee	377	New Jersey Coppers: Maris 24-R	Nov 1994
	379	Updates to New Jersey C.C. Reports	Nov 1994
John Grifffee	28	New Jerseys Part 20: Maris 12-I	Jan 1995
John Grifffee	98	NJ Coppers, Pts. 21-22: Maris 19M,37x	Mar 1995
John Grifffee	155	New Jersey Coppers, Pt.23: Maris 45d	May 1995
John Grifffee	222	N.J. Coppers Part 24: Maris 74bb	Jul 1995
John Grifffee	225	Colonial Happening at EAC '95	Jul 1995
John Grifffee	259	N.J. Coppers, Part 25: Maris 38b	Sept 1995
	260	N.J. Coppers, Part 26: Maris 44c	Sept 1995
John Grifffee	304	N.J. Coppers Part 27: Maris 66v	Nov 1995
Ray Williams	306	Third Annual N.J. Copper Symposium	Nov 1995
John Grifffee	5	NJ Coppers: Maris 21 O	Jan 1996
Michael Hodder	62	A New Find in New Jersey Coppers	Mar 1996
John Grifffee	63	N.J. Coppers, Part 29: Maris 10G	Mar 1996
		N.J. Coppers, Part 30: Maris 10h	Mar 1996
John Grifffee	145	New Jersey Coppers Maris 13J	May 1996
		N. J. Copper Updates: 57n, 18J, 71y, 34v	May 1996
John Grifffee	229	N.J. Coppers Part 32: Mans 3-C	Jul 1996

John Griffee	276	N Jersey Coppers, Part 33: Maris 4C	Sep 1996
	277	N Jersey Coppers, Part 34: Maris 21R	Sep 1996
	278	Updates to Previously Published CC's	Sep 1996
John Griffee	335	New Jersey Coppers Part 35: Maris 5c	Nov 1996
	336	Condition Census Quickfinder	Nov 1996
John Griffee	23	Corrections to Previous NJ CC Reports	Jan 1997
John Griffee	69	New Jersey Condition Census Reports: Additions, Corrections and Deletions	Mar 1997
Ray Williams	85	N.J. Coppers, Part 36: Maris 7E	Mar 1998
Ray Williams	169	New Jersey Coppers, Part 37: Marls 9G	May 1998
Ray Williams	280	N. Jersey Coppers, Part 38: Maris 11.5G	Jul 1998
Ray Williams	340	N.J. Coppers Part 39: Maris 6C	Sep 1998
Ray Williams	418	NJ Coppers Part 40: Maris 6D	Nov 1998
Ray Williams	70	NJ Coppers, Pt 41: Maris 7C,8F,8 1/2C	Mar 1999
Ray Williams	140	New Jersey Coppers, Part 42: Maris 10gg, 10oo, 10 1/2C	May 1999
Ray Williams	212	New Jersey Coppers Part 43: Maris 11 G and 11 hh	Jul 1999
Ray Williams	272	New Jersey Coppers Part 44: Maris 12G and 14J	Sep 1999
Ray Williams	325	N.J. Coppers, Part 45: Maris 15J, 15L,15T	Nov 1999
Ray Williams	19	New Jersey Coppers - A Case Study	Jan 2000
Ray Williams	114	N. J. Coppers, Part 46: Maris 16-d, 16-s and 16-L	May 2000
Ray Williams	183	N.J. Coppers Part 47: Maris 17-J, 17-K, and 17-B	Jul 2000
Ray Williams	273	NJ Coppers Part 48: Maris 18L & 18M	Sep 2000
Ray Williams	335	N.J. Coppers Part 49: Maris 20-N, 21-N,and 21-P	Nov 2000
Ray Williams	15	New Jersey Coppers, Part 50: Maris 21 1/2 R, 23 1/2 R	Jan 2001
Ray Williams	102	NJ Coppers Part 51: Maris 23-P, 23-R, 24-1, 24-M, 24-P, 24-Q, 24-R	Mar 2001
Ray Williams	171	New Jersey Coppers Part 52: MARIS 25-S, 26-S, 26-d, 27-S, & 28-S	May 2001
Ray Williams	232	NJ Coppers Part 53: Maris 28-L, 29-L, 29 1/2-L, 30-L, and 31 -L	Jul 2001
Ray Williams	285	New Jersey Coppers, Part 54: Maris 32-T, 33-U, 34-J, 35-W, 37-J	Sep 2001
Ray Williams	57	NJ Coppers, Part 55: Maris 37-Y, 37-f, 38-L, 38-Y, 382, 38-a, & 38-c	Mar 2002
Ray Williams	117	New Jersey Coppers, Part 56: Maris 39-a, 43-Y, 43-d, 45-e, & 46-e	May 2002
Ray Williams	178	New Jersey Coppers Part 57: Maris 47 1/2-e, 48-x, 48-f, 48-g, 49-f, 50-f	Jul 2002
Ray Williams	238	NJ Coppers, Part 58: Maris 52-1, 53-j, 54-k, 55-1, 55-m	Sep 2002
Ray Williams	294	NJ Coppers, Part 59: Maris 56-n, 57-n, 58-n	Nov 2002

Ray Williams	20	N. J. Coppers, Part 60: Maris 59-o, 60-p, 61-p, 62-q, 62-r and 62 1/2-r	Jan 2003
Ray Williams	91	N.J. Coppers, Part 61: Mans 63-q, 63-r, 63-s, 64-t, 64 1/2-r, and 65-u	Mar 2003
Ray Williams	190	N.J. Coppers, Part 62: Mans 67-v, 68-w, 69-w, 70-x, 72-z and 72 1/2-aa	May 2003
Ray Williams	251	N.J. Coppers, Part 62: Maris 73-aa, 73.5, 75-bb, 76-cc, and 77-dd	Jul 2003
Ray Williams	333	N.J. Coppers, Part 63: Maris 79-ee, 80-ff, 81-11, 83-ii, 84-kk, and 85-nn	Sep 2003
Ray Williams	402	NJ Coppers, Pt 64: Maris 42 1/2-c, 66-u	Nov 2003

John Griffie is no longer with us, but the enthusiasm he shared in colonial numismatics was extremely contagious and will continue for generations. I was honored when he asked me if I would continue with the NJ Copper Condition Census articles in *P-W*. He gave me the Maris 7-E to write up as an experiment. When it was done, he was happy with it and let me run with the ball (running for another six years). John envisioned just writing about the Rarity 6 and scarcer NJ varieties. I changed direction and wrote about all of the varieties in roughly alphanumeric order, without rewriting any varieties already done by John. This was a project where owners of NJ Coppers could participate, regardless of the size or quality of their collections, and see where their coin stood in relation to others. The grades of the coins were provided by the owners and not changed, so some may be open to arbitration.

I look through the list of NJ collectors and almost all of them are still active in colonials today. The project was a lot of fun but I was happy when it came to completion. I hope to write Part 65 in the next few months because there have been some discoveries since 2003.

I've had numerous inquiries about these *P-W* articles over the years and a good friend, Buell Ish, had asked me if I knew which *P-W* issues covered which varieties. He is part of a team working on a book on NJ Coppers and this information would be helpful. I figured if he could use this index, so could others... so here it is. I hope someone else will find it useful too.

In case you didn't know, there is at least one connection between NJ Coppers and Large Cents & Half Cents... The same screw press that struck NJ Coppers in Rahway and Elizabethtown, NJ also struck coinage in the Philadelphia Mint from 1794 and after. I welcome all communications about NJ Coppers or any colonial coin topics. If I can ever be of help, or if you just want to talk coins, please contact me:

Ray Williams
924 Norway Ave
Trenton, NJ 08629
609-587-5929
NJRAYWMS@optonline.net

* * * * *

A SNAKE IN THE HOUSE—AND A 1942 PRICE LIST

Jan Edeburn

I thought I'd pass along my "snake in the grass" story—actually, a snake in the house story, which led to re-looking at some interesting old coin advertisements.

It all began with my wife screaming for help. To be honest, all sorts of bugs and things cause this type of response. As I "slowly" (her word) went to the den to see what was up, I found her on top of the love seat pointing to a small grass snake by the bookcase. As luck would have it, the snake slithered quickly behind the bookcase when I tried to capture it. And, since the rather large bookcase is completely filled with coin books and old auction catalogs and ads, it was too heavy to move. Consequently, I had no choice but to remove everything.

Finding and removing the snake once I could get behind the bookcase wasn't a problem, but reorganizing the bookcase certainly took a while.

In the process, I came across copies of B. Max Mehl's *The Star Coin Book*, and his 1949 *Price List No. 73 of United States and Foreign Coins and Paper Money*. [Jan included a scan of the covers of these pamphlets—Ed.] I also found a 1942 price list from Beebe Stamp and Coin Company, then of Chicago. I thought the prices of half cents and large cents listed therein would be of historical interest to EACers.

Editor's Note: What I find most interesting about these prices is, how low they are compared to just a few years later. Take the 1793 Chain AMERI for example. The Beebe's quote 1942 retail prices of \$22.50 in Good, \$45 in Fine. By 1947, the Sixth Edition *Handbook of United States Coins* ["Blue Book"] was quoting wholesale prices of \$15 in Good, \$30 in Fine; while the same year's Second Edition *Guide Book of United States Coins* ["Red Book"] was quoting corresponding retail prices of \$45 in Good, \$135 in Fine. Curiously, Sheldon's Basal Value System, unveiled in *Early American Cents* (1949), implied a slightly lower retail value—at a Basal Value of \$8.50, a Fine-12 AMERI should have been a \$102 purchase.

Of course, we have no way of knowing how a Beebe "Fine" compared to a Sheldon "Fine"; or a "Fine" as interpreted a hundred different ways by users of the Blue Book! But it still seems pretty clear that the Beebe's wouldn't have been paying anywhere near \$30 for a coin that they would be reselling at \$45.

* * * * *

The following pages are reprinted from

Latest Price List of Coins, Paper Money, and Medals

For Sale by Beebe Stamp & Coin Company, 1180 East 63rd Street, Chicago, Illinois

Copyright 1942.

UNITED STATES HALF CENTS

	FAIR	GOOD	V.G.	FINE	V.FINE	EX.FINE	UNC.
1793	-	10.00	17.50	22.50	35.00	-	-
1794	-	4.00	5.00	9.00	17.50	-	-
1795 Lettered edge	-	3.25	6.00	-	-	-	-
1795 Plain edge	-	2.75	5.50	-	-	-	-
1797 Plain edge	-	3.50	5.25	-	-	-	-
1800	-	1.00	1.75	2.25	3.00	4.00	6.00
1802	-	6.50	10.00	-	-	-	-
1803	-	.75	1.15	1.25	2.00	-	-
1804 Plain 4, Stems	-	2.25	5.50	-	-	-	-
1804 Plain 4, No Stems	-	.50	.60	1.00	1.25	-	-
1804 Crosslet 4, Stems	-	.45	.60	1.25	1.50	-	-
1804 Spiked Chin	-	.75	1.00	1.25	-	-	-
1805 Large 5	-	.60	1.00	1.50	-	-	-
1805 Small 5	-	.50	1.00	1.35	-	-	-
1806 Stemless Wreath	-	.50	.75	1.00	1.50	-	-
1806 With Stems	-	2.75	3.75	-	-	-	-
1807	-	.60	.90	1.25	2.00	-	-
1808 Over 7	-	2.75	5.00	-	-	-	-
1808 Perfect Date	-	.65	.90	1.10	1.60	2.50	-
1809 Over 6	-	1.00	2.00	2.75	-	-	-
1809	-	.40	.55	.75	1.25	1.50	-
1810	-	1.50	2.00	3.00	4.50	-	-
1811	-	3.00	4.00	6.00	-	-	-
1825	-	.45	.60	.85	1.25	1.75	3.00
1826	-	.45	.60	.85	1.25	1.75	3.00
1828 Twelve Stars	-	.75	1.00	1.25	2.00	2.50	-
1828 Thirteen Stars	-	.35	.45	.60	.75	1.00	2.50
1829	-	.35	.45	.65	.90	1.50	-
1832	-	.35	.45	.65	.85	1.25	1.75
1833	-	.35	.45	.60	.85	1.10	1.75
1834	-	.35	.45	.60	.75	.90	1.75
1835	-	.35	.45	.60	.75	1.00	1.50
1849 Large Date.	-	.70	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	3.00
1850	-	.70	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	3.00
1851	-	.35	.50	.75	1.00	1.25	2.50
1853	-	.45	.60	.80	1.00	1.25	2.50
1854	-	.45	.60	.80	1.00	1.25	2.00
1855	-	.45	.60	.80	1.00	1.25	1.75
1856	-	.45	.60	.80	1.00	1.25	2.50
1857	-	.75	.90	1.10	1.25	1.75	3.00

UNITED STATES LARGE CENTS

1793 Chain Ameri.	-	22.50	35.00	45.00	-	-	-
1793 Chain America	12.50	18.00	30.00	40.00	-	-	-
1793 Wreath type	7.50	12.00	17.50	25.00	-	-	-
1793 Liberty Cap	-	30.00	-	-	-	-	-
1794	1.00	2.00	3.50	5.50	10.00	25.00	-
1795 Plain Edge	1.50	2.75	3.75	8.75	12.50	-	-
1795 Lettered Edge	-	3.25	6.50	9.00	-	-	-
1796 Liberty Cap	-	4.00	6.00	10.00	15.00	-	-
1796 Bust Type	2.00	3.75	7.50	10.00	20.00	-	-
1797	.75	1.50	3.00	5.00	-	-	-
1797 No Stems	-	2.00	3.50	6.00	-	-	-
1798 Over 97	-	2.25	4.00	7.50	-	-	-
1798	.60	1.00	1.60	2.75	6.00	-	-
1799	-	30.00	45.00	-	-	-	-
1800 Over Date	-	1.85	2.75	5.00	-	-	-
1800	.85	1.25	2.00	5.00	-	-	-
1801	.90	1.50	2.50	4.75	-	-	-

UNITED STATES LARGE CENTS (CONT.)

	V. FAIR	GOOD	V. G.	FINE	V. FINE	EX. FINE	UNC.
1801 Three errors	—	2.75	5.00	—	—	—	—
1801 1/100 Ov. 1/1000	—	2.75	5.00	—	—	—	—
1801 1/1000	—	2.00	4.50	6.00	—	—	—
1802	.40	.60	1.00	2.00	3.50	—	—
1802 No Stems	.90	1.35	2.00	3.00	—	—	—
1802 1/1000	—	1.00	2.00	3.00	—	—	—
1803 Large Fraction	.45	.60	1.10	2.00	3.50	—	—
1803 Small Fraction	.45	.60	1.10	2.00	3.00	—	—
1803 No Stems	—	2.00	4.00	—	—	—	—
1803 1/100 Ov. 1/1000	—	2.50	4.50	7.50	—	—	—
1804 Perfect Date	18.00	21.00	27.50	—	—	—	—
1804 Broken Die	—	—	27.50	—	—	—	—
1805 Blunt 1	.75	1.15	2.00	4.00	6.00	—	—
1805 Perfect 1	—	1.25	2.25	4.50	—	—	—
1806	1.50	2.25	3.50	7.50	—	30.00	—
1807 Large Fraction	.60	1.00	1.40	3.00	—	—	—
1807 Small Fraction	.60	1.10	1.60	3.00	—	—	—
1807 Over 6	.65	1.00	1.50	3.00	6.00	—	—
1807 Comet	—	2.00	3.00	—	—	—	—
1808 12 Stars	—	2.25	3.75	6.00	—	—	—
1808 13 Stars	1.20	1.75	3.00	6.00	—	—	—
1809	—	3.75	6.00	10.00	17.50	35.00	—
1810 Over 9	—	1.00	2.50	3.50	4.50	—	—
1810 Perfect Date	.65	.90	1.25	3.00	4.00	—	—
1811 Over 10	—	3.00	4.00	6.50	11.00	—	—
1811 Perfect Date	2.25	3.25	4.50	6.50	12.50	—	—
1812 Large Date	.55	.90	1.15	1.75	3.50	—	—
1812 Small Date	.60	1.00	1.35	2.00	4.50	—	—
1813	1.50	2.00	2.75	3.75	6.00	12.50	—
1814 Plain 4	.40	.65	1.00	1.50	3.00	4.50	—
1814 Crosslet 4	.40	.75	1.00	1.50	3.00	4.50	—
1816	—	.35	.65	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00
1817 Fifteen Stars	—	.75	2.00	2.50	3.75	—	—
1817 Wide Date	—	.35	.50	.85	1.50	3.00	—
1817 Close Date	—	.35	.50	.85	1.50	3.00	—
1818	—	.25	.40	.75	1.00	1.25	2.50
1819 Over 18	—	.60	.90	1.50	2.50	—	—
1819 Large Date	—	.35	.45	.60	1.00	—	—
1819 Small Date	—	.30	.40	.65	1.00	—	4.50
1820 Over 19	—	.75	1.00	1.50	3.00	—	—
1820 Large Date	—	.25	.50	.75	1.25	2.00	3.50
1820 Small Date	—	.45	.65	.85	1.75	3.00	—
1821 Wide Date	.75	1.50	2.75	5.00	10.00	20.00	—
1821 Close Date	.75	1.50	2.75	4.50	—	—	—
1822 Close Date	—	.30	.65	1.50	2.50	5.00	—
1822 Wide Date	—	.30	.65	1.25	2.00	3.50	—
1823 Over 22	1.40	2.25	4.50	8.50	20.00	—	—
1823 Perfect Date	1.65	2.75	5.00	8.00	—	—	—
1824 Over 22	—	2.00	2.75	3.75	—	15.00	—
1824 Wide Date	—	.50	.85	2.00	3.00	—	—
1824 Close Date	—	.50	.90	2.25	3.00	—	—
1825 Large A's	—	.40	.75	1.25	2.50	4.00	—
1825 Small A's	—	.40	.75	1.25	2.50	4.00	—
1826 Over 25	—	1.25	2.00	3.00	—	—	—
1826 Wide Date	—	.30	.50	.90	1.75	3.00	—
1826 Close Date	—	.35	.50	.85	1.75	3.00	—
1827	—	.50	.75	1.00	1.75	2.50	—
1828 Large Date	—	.30	.50	1.10	2.00	3.75	9.00
1828 Small Date	—	.65	1.10	2.00	3.75	6.00	—

UNITED STATES LARGE CENTS (CONT.)

	GOOD	V.G.	FINE	V.FINE	EX.FINE	UNC.
1829 Large Letters	.35	.65	1.25	2.50	4.00	—
1829 Small Letters	.35	.65	1.25	2.25	—	—
1830 Large Letters	.40	.70	1.25	1.85	4.00	—
1830 Small Letters	1.25	2.25	4.00	—	—	—
1831 Large Letters	.25	.40	.75	1.50	2.50	—
1831 Small Letters	.25	.40	.75	1.50	2.50	—
1832 Large Letters	.40	.65	1.25	2.25	3.00	6.00
1832 Small Letters	.40	.65	1.25	2.25	3.00	6.00
1833 Large Letters	.30	.50	.85	1.50	2.50	—
1833 Small Letters	.30	.50	.85	1.50	2.50	5.00
1834 Small Date	.40	.60	1.25	2.25	2.50	5.00
1834 Large Date	.40	.60	1.25	2.25	—	—
1835 Large Date	.45	.75	1.50	2.25	3.50	—
1835 Small Date	.50	.75	1.50	2.25	3.50	—
1835 Type of 36	.50	.75	1.50	2.50	3.00	—
1836	.35	.65	.85	1.25	2.00	4.00
1837 Plain Hair Cord	.20	.40	.75	1.15	2.50	4.50
1837 Beaded Hair Cord	.20	.40	.75	1.25	2.00	4.00
1838	.20	.35	.45	1.00	1.35	2.50
1839 Over 36	5.00	—	—	—	—	—
1839 Type of '38	.40	.60	1.25	2.50	4.00	—
1839 Silly Head	.40	.60	1.25	2.50	4.50	—
1839 Booby Head	.40	.60	1.10	2.00	4.50	—
1839 Head of '40	.35	.70	1.10	2.50	5.00	—
1840 Large Date	.30	.40	.75	1.35	1.75	—
1840 Small Date	.30	.45	.80	1.50	2.00	4.50
1841	.35	.50	.75	1.85	2.50	5.00
1842 Large Date	.20	.35	.75	1.25	2.00	4.50
1842 Small Date	.40	.65	1.00	1.75	2.75	6.00
1843 Type of '42	.30	.55	.85	1.25	1.75	—
1843 Obv. of '42, Rx. of 44	.50	1.25	1.50	3.50	—	—
1843 Type of '44	.35	.75	1.25	2.25	4.50	—
1844	.25	.35	.65	1.00	1.50	—
1844 Over 81	1.25	1.75	—	—	—	—
1845	.20	.30	.60	1.10	1.75	3.50
1846	.20	.30	.60	1.10	1.75	3.25
1846 Tall Date	.50	.85	1.25	2.50	—	—
1847	.15	.20	.35	.75	1.25	3.50
1848	.15	.20	.35	.75	1.25	3.50
1849	.20	.30	.50	.85	1.25	3.50
1850	.20	.30	.45	.85	1.25	3.00
1851	.15	.20	.35	.60	1.00	3.00
1852	.20	.30	.45	.85	1.20	2.75
1853	.15	.20	.35	.60	1.00	2.50
1854	.20	.30	.45	.85	1.20	2.50
1855 Upright 5's	.25	.35	.50	.90	1.40	2.50
1855 Slanting 5's	.25	.35	.55	.90	1.40	2.50
1856 Upright 5's	.20	.30	.55	.90	1.20	2.25
1856 Slanting 5's	.20	.30	.50	.90	1.20	2.25
1857 Large Date	1.00	1.25	1.60	2.00	2.75	4.50
1857 Small Date	1.25	1.50	2.00	2.50	3.25	—

It is impossible to keep all large cents in stock in all conditions. When ordering, please make second and third choices.

U. S. SMALL CENTS - FLYING EAGLE - Coined 1856-1858

1856 (Proof \$75.00)	—	40.00	45.00	—	—	60.00
1857	.25	.35	.50	.65	1.00	2.25
1858 Large Letters	.30	.40	.60	.75	1.25	4.00

S-65 EDGE VARIETIES

Marshall Bryant

Please forward [these images] to the person working on the Edge Variety studies begun by Walter Breen in 1986 and continued by Dan Trolan in 2006. [Editor's note: see "From the Internet," page 37, *Penny-Wise* #232, January 2006.] Breen mentioned that he had heard rumors of an S-65 with the edge of 1795. . . I believe I have an S-65 of each variety.



To which Dan Trolan replied, Thank you for the photos and input on the Edge study. The study has a hitch that I will explain. The more worn the edge is on the coin you are looking at, the larger its edge letters appear. I have found that you can only study the differences on high-grade coins, and that literally has killed the study! Your two S-65 coins are an example of how normal wear changes the look of the letters on the edge. Therefore, I have stopped my study, as there is no way you can compare all the coins, worn ones and high grade ones. In all fairness, it becomes an unfair study. All who have low-grade coins would be left out and I will not be a part of that. Please let me know what you think of all of this as I do like to hear opinions.

* * * * *

MANY THANKS

Al Nelson

Four years ago, I walked into a coin show in Itasca, Illinois. A Chicago dealer was looking at a coin. I said, "I'd like to look at your large cents (which were all unattributed). I'm collecting middle date Newcomb varieties." He looked up at me and said, "Oh—you're one of *those*!"

I was not always one of those.

I had accumulated a date set from 1816-1839 with a few varieties. Tired of waiting for fairly high-end Walker halves to appear on the market, I decided to expand my large cent search. I tried to collect, as I could afford, the higher rarities first, figuring I could always fill in the R1 and R2 coins later. My set is mainly Good to Fine.

I now have 238 varieties. I'm not finished, but it's time to thank some people. I have yet to meet a disinterested or unhelpful large cent dealer. Their passion for these old coppers is obvious and their patience with this novice is appreciated. I see some of these people occasionally, some frequently, and some I've not yet met in person. All have been bitten, as Jim Long once said, by the bug.

My thanks to Jack Beymer, Doug Bird, Larry Briggs, Carl Brown, Charles Brown, Rod Burrell, Leo Courshon, John Dirnbauer, Jim Long, Tom Reynolds, Earl Sullivan, Don Valenziano (Rest in Peace), Dick Varian, Kermit Wasmer, and Joan Widok. Also, since the last shall be first, a special thank you to Rod Widok. Your knowledge, advice, attribution skills, and patience with my ignorance is much appreciated.

These people have helped make my collecting passion a lot of fun.

* * * * *

CHERRY PICKING 101: BEGINNER'S LUCK

Ron Illian

I started collecting early date copper because of a chance encounter with Don Valenziano at a local show in Illinois. Over the years, I had assembled a variety of sets of the usual buffalos, Indian heads and mercury dimes but thought that coppers were an elitist pursuit and beyond my means. I walked past a table manned by Don and Rod & Joan Widok and said to Don, "Tell me about coppers." He proceeded to give me a brief outline and that started a chain reaction, no pun intended, that continues to burn in me. I don't believe that I bought anything from him that day but remember being amazed that anything that old could still be so good looking. Over the course of the next month, I researched as much as I could with my local libraries' limited resources and the internet and when the next show came up I was ready to acquire my first coin. I had decided to collect early half cents only and try to do a date set. I thought that varieties were beyond my scope. So once again I started a collection.

After attending several shows and auctions, I was able to pretty much complete a decent date set but had gotten to the point that unless I was willing and able to spend some big bucks, I was never going to find the rest of the needed coins. What then? Of course, large cents.

My first purchase from Don was a nice S-30 and once again I was off to the races. Which brings me to the present—I have accumulated several early date cents but have fallen under the

spell of the '94s. The varieties boggle the mind and the knowledge that each coin is hand engraved and therefore unique creates a certain mystique and charm. Also, with the addition of Bill Noyes' book, I felt I could possibly find an elusive coin or two overlooked by the dealers.

At the recent ANA show in Boston, I was armed with my book and ready to scout out bargains. Bargains? Hah! After half a day of visiting most of the dealers selling off my paper money and ancient Greek coins, I had seen several unattainable coins and a lot of "I can't believe it's a cent" items. However, persistence paid off and I did find some decent coins, which I purchased. Although not a '94, a nice '93 Wreath also found a new home. I had decided to make notes of coins that I did not buy immediately for whatever reason in case I did not find a better candidate. After going back up to my room to unload my finds, I found the note with the varieties that I had passed on. I went back downstairs and went to reevaluate the coins. Nothing had changed and I didn't buy the coins for the same reasons that I didn't the first time, first impression. On my way out to the hotel, I passed the dealer who had bought the majority of my Greek coins to see how he was doing and noticed that he was part of a three way set up with one dealer who had a single display case. Was that a cent? It was. It was in a 2x2 marked "1794 Large Cent \$65." I asked to see it and found a rather worn and porous cent, dateless, with no discernable fraction but still a pleasing example of an early date cent. The dealer mentioned that another person had looked at it but opined that there was not enough detail to attribute it to a Sheldon number. I had to agree. The dealer reduced the asking price to \$50, but I declined and thanked him for his time.

I left the show and went up to my room to take a break. I had about an hour to kill before meeting Tom Reynolds for dinner and thought, for \$50 bucks, I could have hours of entertainment trying to attribute the coin while I wait. I went back to the floor and the dealer was gone but his friend next to him phoned him and I bought the coin when he returned. Back in my room, I removed the stapled holder and put the coin under the reading lamp. I opened my Noyes reference book to 1794s and ignoring the "Quick Finder" because I didn't know it was there, I started comparing the pictures to the coin, one after another. I should add that I had just purchased the reference books that morning at the show. When I reached S-30 I noticed that the coin had a lump in the field left of the hair just like the picture. Rats! Another S-30 but in poor shape I thought. No, wait, the lump was not in the same place and the ribbon shape was wrong. The chip was in the right place on the picture of S-31 but the coin had only one berry left of the bow and the S-31 had two berries. On to the next "chip in the field" variety which was S-38. Was it a match? Could it be? It was! I looked through the rest of the 1794 pictures and was fairly certain that it was an R5+ S-38. I was going to bring it to dinner with me and get Tom's opinion that evening.

After we were seated and had ordered dinner, I took the coin out of my pocket and said, "Do you think this is an S-38?" As he was looking at it, I related the story of how it had been acquired. He had a good laugh when I told him that I had originally declined to buy it. Tom was pretty sure that it was an S-38 and after dinner, we walked back to the hotel and went to Tom's room to

research the coin using "Numistudy" by Noyes and Lusk on his computer. Bill Noyes was there when we arrived and when Tom showed him the coin we heard a harrumph and he went out for an ice cream. Tom was gracious enough not to belittle the coin and graded it F-15 details, net Good-5, Average-minus. Later when Bill Noyes came back and Tom told him the grade, he was heard between bites of his Baskin-Robbins to say "Scudzy."

All-in-all, I never expected to come home with this variety but it just goes to show that those hard-to-get coins are still out there awaiting beginners like me to cherry pick. You likely won't find them at the dealers with a large copper display, so search the dealers who have one or two or maybe none on display. You might be rewarded like I was. It's not one of the best S-38's by far, but it is one and that's one less for me to look for. Good hunting!

* * * * *

MY DOG'S TOOTHBRUSH

John Dirnbauer

I have used the very same coin brush for over 30 years. As I remember, I bought it from a fellow who advertised such useful items in *Penny-Wise*. I have satisfactorily brushed many hundreds, if not thousands, of large cents, half cents, and colonial coins (not to mention my dog's teeth) over the years with that brush. A bit of Care or Blue Ribbon Coin Conditioner was used to protect the delicate surfaces of those coins after a judicious, gentle brushing with the brush and the coin held at just the right angles.

My brush has taken on a gentle slant and a greenish color from the years of use. These are apparently desirable characteristics as I was offered \$100 for the brush a number of years ago. I don't remember who made the offer but if you read this and are still interested, please contact me. I am ready to talk turkey.

I bought a new brush a few years ago as a celebratory gift to myself to earmark my retirement from the school biz and as a symbol of my new life as a full-time coin dealer. Anyway, twice in the past few months, in discussions with coin nerds, the topic of brushes, brushing technique, and all sorts of oddly-related numismatica came up.

My knowledgeable cronies commented on the bad things that can happen when a mint state red early American copper coin is "attacked" (a cronyism) with a well-used, green-bristled brush. Horrible hairlines moving in many different directions, depending on the lack of skill and/or the poor technique of the perp, will surely result. I said that only an inexperienced youth would brush a coin in such a lofty state of preservation. I continued, in my best professorial-tone, that only coins in circulated grades should be treated to the brush and the juice.

Now, to the point – I said the brush was camel hair, my friends argued it was goat's hair. I said let it get green; they said shampoo it once a month and then blow dry it. I said they were

^% crazy; they said I was %^& crazy . . . and then the fists flew. When the dust settled and the saloon doors swung shut and the damages were all paid for, the BIG QUESTION was still unresolved – is it camel hair, goat hair, or something less or more exotic?

What do you think? Be sure to call (207.354.3573) if you want to buy my dog’s toothbrush. He no longer needs it as he passed away a short while ago, and the cat won’t cooperate with me.

Editor’s Note: In acknowledging John’s contribution, I commented, “It’s a goat hair brush. And no, no one in his or her right mind would attack a mint state coin or token, especially one with any prooflike surface, with a grimy green brush. Actually, you need to see the article that Jerry Bobbe wrote for the Spring 2010 issue of *The Conder Token Collector’s Journal*, which includes pithy comments about grimy green brushes and other Human Impairments Post Striking (HIPS).”

To which John replied: “A quick Google search and other sniffing around did not confirm that the brushes we have been using are ‘camel hair.’ The brushes are a ‘natural material.’ So, my question remains a question.”

To which I responded, quoting from Jerry Bobbe’s article: “The worst and most widespread abuse involves one of those EAC-type #4 goat hair jeweler brushes. Many erroneously believe it to be made of much softer ‘camel hair,’ such as used with camera equipment; but it is not, it’s from a goat! When a goat hair brush is old and well used, it will contain years of sticky green and black accumulated crud and verdigris. These are actually microscopic razor-sharp gritty particles. If used on a high grade surface, such a dirty brush will immediately cause serious hairlining, along with a permanent disturbance to the natural luster flow. It will certainly improve the odds if the brush is occasionally shampooed and blow dried, just as one might do with their own hair. However, even clean brushes will undoubtedly hairline any choice-surfaced token or coin they cross! More surface reflection equals more damage probability. In my grading classes I occasionally do a swipe or two with a nice clean brush across a modern low value Proof Lincoln cent, and then pass the hapless coin around the class until everyone is able to readily spot the freshly applied scratchy hairlines. On any high grade item one brush swipe can do significant metal damage; seriously worse with a dirty brush.”

Now, I know all about the supposed “magic” impartable from an old, well-greened brush—how a few swipes from it (with or without a little oil off the forehead skin, for example) can turn a dull, lifeless, even corroded copper into something with at least an attractive gloss. I also recall hearing Don Partrick, at an seminar EAC years ago, reminisce about Sheldon rubbing up an early large cent with an old chamois. But then, maybe that was a copper that Sheldon had previously waxed; who can say?

All I know for sure is, the phrase “natural material” is no reassurance to me. As my wife has been wont to retort to people excusing their dabbling in various, unproven, herbal remedies with the words, “Well, it’s natural!”—“So is snake venom!”

* * * * *

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mike Shutty writes,

I have been behind in my coin reading, so when I opened up my last *P-W*, I was quite surprised to see that you had recognized my writing. Wow! I greatly appreciate your kind words, as I am quite honored to be able to have had the opportunity to share my ideas. After years of being a silent member, I am glad that I ventured out. It all started with a somewhat impulsive decision to go to the ANA summer seminar a few years ago (after 20 years of reading about it). And just last April, I had a great time at the EAC convention. I spent all night (well it *seemed* like all night, as I usually go to bed at 9) at the Happenings -- I went to all of them including the Colonial show-and-tell, where I saw everything from wampum to odd tokens dug from the ground in New England. And I finally saw Q.D. Bowers (I grew up reading his adventures, action guides, and profiles) -- he was absolutely correct, this must have been how it used to be in collecting circles when coins -- not slabs and markets -- ruled the waves. Everyone was very friendly, and since I was wearing a first-comer's badge, I was approached over and over again with outstretched hands -- it took a while to adjust, as I am rather shy. I enjoyed giving an off-the-cuff talk on numismaticitis and was rewarded with some great discussions afterwards about how and why folks collect stuff. I did take some girls home: a couple of '94s -- impulse buys I have to admit, since as you may recall, it was a '96 that I was looking for. Thanks again for your kind words -- there are so many good writers in *P-W* -- we really have something special here.

* * *

Paul Pattacini writes,

This past January, I had the opportunity to drive south from Georgia to the FUN show in Orlando. My wife Kristin was very kind in giving me four days to see old friends and search for some early coppers. As I was walking through the bourse early one morning, a memorable moment occurred. Something inside me said, "Go talk to that dealer over there and make an introduction." So I hesitate and then slowly walk over to his table. He tells me how he's sharing a table and helping a dealer friend. He removes the cover from the cases and in the center is a pair of Mercury Dime earrings. I could not believe what I was seeing! I had been looking for these during the whole show. I immediately buy them and I'm thrilled!

So you ask, dear reader, "What's so special about a pair of earrings?" Before I left Georgia, my wife said, "If you see a pair of Mercury Dime earrings, buy them so I can wear them for you." Now you have to understand that there were about 500 dealers in that huge hall and the voice inside of me guided me to the exact location. This dealer had only one pair. What an awesome moment! Sometimes, the best moment is not about finding a particular coin, but it's about finding a special gift that says, "God helped me find you ten years ago and God helped me find this gift for you! Thank you for being my wife."

Maybe next time, Kristin might ask for an S-48 Starred Reverse—just kidding! Oh, by the way, I did find a cool, unattributed half cent! But that's another story. . .

* * * * *

FROM THE INTERNET

Gene Anderson

New Members

Mike Brown joined since our last report. Region 8 now has 408 members.

Member Comments

Red Henry thinks that the more information we can share about the well-made cent copies on eBay and elsewhere, the better off we'll be. Here's an "1822 cent" with the 2's wrong, star placement wrong, reverse letter size wrong-- nice coin, hmm? He thinks that it will soon reside in someone's collection:



It appears not to match these particular copies--



EAC members may be more equipped to avoid these copies than the collecting public at large, but at this rate Red expects the copies to start showing up in the inventories of general coin dealers and getting into general numismatic circulation. He wishes we at least had a site where we could post counterfeit reports.

Larry Fishgold responded thanking Red Henry for bringing this fake from eBay to our attention. Keep an eye on the reverse lettering, that's a dead giveaway, at least on this one.

A different take from **Ward Van Duzer** was that perhaps we are going about this counterfeit business all wrong. Many of these dealers may be "taken" by these things as much as the people who buy them. We all know of reasonable, intelligent dealers who have been had! Many, of course, are not. If we all sent them a short message telling them they are selling counterfeits, and describe the faults in the coins they are selling, they might pull back from selling things they (presumably) know nothing about. It wouldn't do any harm to remind them that once they have sold one, knowing that it's a bummer, they make themselves criminally liable. This way they (the bad ones) may also begin to see that there are way more folks out here who recognize these fakes than they ever realized. Ward sent an informative personal note to the seller of the fake 1822 LC on eBay explaining why it was not a legit coin, and it appears that the coin was pulled from the auction. Interestingly, Ward was told they believed it to be genuine because it came to them in a PCGS holder. Ward questioned why they would remove it from an accepted certified holder but received no reply!

John Wright also responded concerning Red Henry's 1822. John said this 1822 is from the same source as the ones he warned about in *Penny-Wise* a few issues ago. The 'source' is an 1833 N5. John has seen this group (die-match) for every year from 1815 thru 1839, all from this die-pair and all with hand-tooled dates added. Source is China. The one Red referred to as "appears not to match" is from a different Chinese fabricator. Some of these are marked "COPY", some are marked "REPLICA", and some are unmarked.

Greg Heim commented that we take for granted the amount of information we all know about numismatics, of which the general public has no clue. This includes collectors on the basic level as well. For example, Greg has two sitters to help with his son. Both of them are going to be seniors in high school. Greg showed them two coins: A worn 1850 Large Cent, and a 1971 Eisenhower Dollar. It was not surprising that they did not know what either one was. After explaining to them, they were enlightened (and surprisingly interested). The point is, that many of us tend to get caught up in in-depth analysis of the hobby. Of course, that is important, but for basic collectors it is important not to lose perspective of how much you have to offer.

Dennis Fuoss writes that he finally got around to posting his commentary on the Dan Holmes Part-2 auction on his blog, which can be found at: <http://earlyamericancopper.blogspot.com/>.

Hugh Bodell is up to Quiz 56. He also expressed thanks to Steve Ellsworth for showing him two 1822 N-14s recently.

Ken Casebeer wrote that he is enjoying the newsletter.

Bill Eckberg reported that the Executive Committee, at the Board's request, approved the proposal to hold the 2013 convention near Columbus, OH. Details and dates will appear in a forthcoming issue of *Penny-Wise*.

Robert Holmes commented on the high cost of collecting and the next generation of collectors. It is still quite possible to put together a pleasing lower-grade set containing a majority of the Sheldon collectibles for a relatively small sum of money. To do so, you need a working knowledge of the varieties, time to monitor auctions and fixed price lists, the ability to seek out and buy from dealers who offer identifiable lower grade coins at reasonable prices, and, of course, a collecting strategy. As to the next generation of collectors, Robert's guess is that there will be plenty of them. Just as now, people who can afford it will trade in the higher grade and higher priced coins. There will be a broader market for decent middle and lower grade pieces.

The market for scudzy/low grade coins will grow because they will continue to be affordable and available to a broader collector base (some of whom will ultimately "upgrade"). The intrinsic charm of the early cents, their history, varieties, connection to a simpler time, rarity and their long-term value will all continue to attract enthusiasts. The internet, shows and organizations like EAC, ANA and C4 will continue to stimulate, support and promote, as will current U.S. mint programs designed to create a collector base of their products - a base that will ultimately have spill-over into our areas of interest. Finally, the overall population growth will inevitably contribute new collectors. One other note: There is integrity, enthusiasm and decency in abundance among collectors and dealers in early cents (and perhaps early coppers in general) and this can only add to the attractiveness of the hobby in the immediate future.

Matt Yohe writes that this is his first year as an EAC member and he has only recently joined Region 8. He has followed with real interest members' comments and concerns regarding the future popularity of the hobby. We need only think of how numismatics has developed us, both intellectually and emotionally, to realize we should feel obligated to introduce the next generation to the joys of coin collecting. A handful of Indian Head cents and a story about the old west is magical to a child. Can you imagine not having the warm memories we all have of sitting at the kitchen table with your father or grandfather, endlessly searching through wheat cents for that elusive '09-S VDB? Many of the fondest memories Matt has of his childhood involve coins. Share them with your children. Their lives will be richer and so will the hobby. To that end, Matt maintains a website, numistories.com, through which he shares his own coin stories, memories, and a generous amount of history. If you would like to share your own stories, please feel free to email Matt at numistories@gmail.com.

Tom Reed reminded us all of why we love EAC. He wishes he could be at the ANA show. It is hard to describe to those that can attend how those that cannot attend most, or all, of these shows...just how hard it is to read the posts. Tom really, truly appreciates the acceptance of everyone who has never met him, but have extended the honor of sending coins on approval. You will never know what it means to Tom and others like him.

Bill Gleckler asked has anyone had a recent submission to CAC rejected. He is a born skeptic. It is not skepticism that questions who benefits more than the grading companies from plus grading? The splitting of hairs as far as Mint State grading goes, reduces an already subjective exercise to the point of being absolutely arbitrary. To suggest that a grader can look at an MS coin in hand and that he might be able to proclaim "That coin an MS67+" is ludicrous. Who needs this? As Bob Dylan once said, "You don't need a weather man to know which way the wind blows." And the wind is carrying a distinct aroma of fish. The argument for a plus rating system, if accepted, is the exact same argument for plus plus, or plus plus plus. Just one more thing that makes Bill glad he won't live forever.

George Edwards offers this on "4th Party" Grading. He was offered an 1892-O Micro O half dollar PCGS AG-3 with a CAC green sticker. The obverse of the coin may have been G-4, but the reverse was Poor-1. The reverse showed only 4 letters. The worn down letters DOL of DOLLAR, and the O of the mintmark, all the other lettering was gone. Is that typical of CAC grading or is it a scam by someone else? From that experience George would consider a CAC green sticker worthless.

James Higby weighs in on the same topic. He feels the same way as Bill Gleckler about the "4th Party" grading services. He once saw a dealer display that included two cases chock full of coins that had been so certified. His instant reaction was, "If these coins are high end for their grades, I'd really hate to see those at the low end." It was pathetic. James actually owns a couple of these slabs, and whenever he looks beyond the pieces of copper in them, he is embarrassed.

Larry Fishgold wrote that he recently sent in several coins to CAC. Two were Large Cents and three were Lincolns. All were PCGS graded and all were mint state. The two large cents were an 1846 Medium Date MS63BN and an 1839 Type 1840 MS64BN. Both coins were stickered. Of the three Lincolns, only one was stickered (a 1931S MS66). Larry thinks it's "all in what's in the coffee that day." He was shocked that his SVDB MS65RD did not get stickered.

Jim Rehmus weighed in on 4th party grading. Fourth party grading has a single purpose: money. The third party grading business model has an interesting flaw: eventually there will be no more coins to grade. At some point after several submissions coins get locked in to their grade and holder. When that occurs the coin is removed from the third party grading population -- essentially forever -- unless a new brand can be developed that demands further submissions. The CAC sticker and the + sign are just more subjective and expensive nonsense designed to separate the collector from a dollar. Jim has a couple of early coppers with CAC stickers. One is actually mis-graded which is a bit startling. The others are circulated coins that are not markedly different from un-stickered coins. Jim says stick with Jack Robinson on this: "... it has become very CLEAR to me that there is VERY LITTLE CHOICE Early Copper around..." (Jack's emphasis). CAC stickers don't change that. In a related vein Jim is sure others have made the observation that PCGS has quietly begun to net grade some coins, particularly the rarer varieties. Coins that would almost certainly have been body-bagged five years ago are now slabbed. Look at low grade, slabbed 1793 half cents or large cents as examples. Again this is an attempt to enlarge the population of coins they can charge to grade -- dealers in particular learned their lessons early on and stopped submitting marginal coins. Every non-submission is lost revenue for a third party grading service. Not that Jim is a cynic or anything.

David Lange corrects a common misconception about CAC. Regarding James Higby's comments about the CAC stickers supposedly representing high-end coins for the grade, there seems to be a lot of misunderstanding in this area. The green bean means only that CAC agrees with the grade; it doesn't imply anything more. CAC's gold bean is used when the examiner believes the coin is high-end for the grade, and these are rarely seen.

James Higby responded in the light of David Lange's rejoinder to his post to Region 8. He humbly stands corrected and, as do all honest skeptics, eagerly and willingly revises his brazen observation about the cases of CAC-stickered slabs he reported seeing at a show thus: If the green bean means, as he states, only that CAC agrees with the grade (their website actually indicates that coins they sticker are "solid for the grade" and thus their "prices...can be untethered from the lesser quality counterparts"), James would hate to see the ones that were not "solid" for their assigned grades, but still slabbed. Everyone knows, of course, that any coin that is "solid" for its assigned grade (such as that ubiquitous "XF45 beauty with breathless claims to AU50 or even AU55!") will tempt its owner to play the crackout game, the green sticker notwithstanding.

Bob Holmes said he has NEVER liked 3rd party grading, even for common stuff like silver dollars. Look back at how that grading worked out: Condition rarity, supposedly consistently

graded, yielded a tremendous number of sales for the 3rd party graders, generally drove up market prices because the sheep "believed," then when they tried to re-sell, they found that the grading standards had changed and much of what had been a 65 was now a 63. Somebody made a lot of money off these coins, but not the common collector. Bob rues the day, frankly, when they started 3rd party grading of early coppers, Colonial, State and Federal. He never understood how anyone could truly standardize a grade for most of these issues. It runs absolutely contrary to the notion that each of these coins has characteristics - planchet, strike, damage, die characteristics, die breaks, wear patterns - unique to that coin. Early coppers are NOT Morgan dollars. The result is, the 3rd party grades are all over the lot. The only redeeming virtue, at least for one of the major players, was that they only graded undamaged, [allegedly] un-cleaned coins. Now that's in the past as well - just look at the condition (never mind the grade) of some of the stuff out there! Bob thinks it started when they began to grade and label coins from big collections that went to auction. Now it's being generalized. And you can bet that there will ultimately be an escalation (or de-escalation) in grades, because that's the industry's record with many other issues. As one Region 8 member noted, it's really about THEM making money on people who have no confidence in their own ability to grade coins or confidence in their ability to judge value. Thank goodness for the Robinsons of the world, with their constant reminders about the price of ignorance and their commitment to accurate information! Remember, an initial selling point for 3rd party grading was blind trading (just like the stock market or commodities exchanges, they said!). It didn't work with silver dollars and it doesn't work with old copper. 4th party grading? Simply amplifies the errors of 3rd party from Bob's collector point of view!

Alan Welty related his experience with CAC, "at the risk of dragging this on too long," he said. First, he has to disagree with David Lange's note in newsletter #673. Reading from CAC's website, especially the FAQs, it is clear enough that they think many NGC & PCGS certified coins are accurately graded, but are not worthy of CAC stickers, and that the sticker is supposed to mean 'solid' or high-end for the assigned grade. (See FAQs 3, 5 & 6 in particular.) In a quick look through their website, Alan couldn't find any reference to the gold stickers, but folks do seem to think it means under-graded in CAC's opinion. Just look at some recent auction results for evidence that some bidders think gold stickered coins are worth the next grade or more! (Or maybe they just want the rare gold sticker itself...) Alan's own experience is limited to experimenting with the free submissions (limit 20) from collectors at last year's Coinfest show in Stamford, CT. He went through his slabbed coins and chose those he thought were the best among his own for the assigned grades. Included were a half cent, twelve large cents, five half dimes and a seated dime. Slab grades range from 62 to 67. All copper was BN. Six of the thirteen coppers got stickers, but none of the silver did. Alan prefers lightly toned, well-struck silver. His observations have been that CAC seems to care little for quality of strike, but loves toning, even what he thinks is ugly toning, on silver coins. So, he was not surprised at those silver coin results. Alan has not seen many CAC stickers on early copper. (Those that he recalls are ex-Naftzger coins). For his coppers, some results did surprise him. His 1839 N-3 is a nice coin in a 65 slab, but simply does not compare to his 1837 N-9, also in 65 plastic. Indeed, in his opinion,

that 1837 is his finest brown cent, nicer than those he has in 66 & 67 slabs. Of the 1837 & 1839, guess which did and did not get a sticker... It seems to Alan that CAC is just as subject to inconsistency as the slab graders. And finally, he agrees with Jim Rehmus' comments regarding the money involved. But like it or not, slab grades and CAC stickers do have an impact on prices in the numismatic marketplace.

Erin Finney offers a generous solution for those concerned about 4th party Grading. For ten bucks, he will look at your CAC-stickered, slabbed coins and put his initials on it with a special pen, thus ensuring that the second, third and fourth party grading services are not ripping you off.

Bill Eckberg is pleased to announce the same service as Erin is offering, but for \$20 per coin. His standards are higher than Erin's, whatever they are!

John Dirnbauer wrote that the EAC, C4, and NBS meetings were interesting and informative. It was very nice to meet and chat with dozens of members of the "round and brown society." John plans to enact an idea that struck him at the show. He is going to prepare and distribute a one-page document that lists membership information on EAC, C4, and NBS. He has been quite surprised over the past year by the number of people who collect early copper, in even a modest way, and don't know of these fine organizations.

Roger Lyles reports that he attended a little one-day coin show in Fairfield, California. He is always looking over coppers. This XF 1847 N-7 had three large rim cuds that caught his attention. Having the Grellman/Reiver Attribution Guide sure makes this type of cent easy to attribute.

Craig Hamling forwarded an announcement of a new competitor to eBay.

Ryan Wickland would like to introduce us to his newly launched coin collecting site: <http://www.usacoinbook.com/  > He is hoping that collectors could take a look through the site and possibly talk about it or spread the word to fellow collectors. Ryan has been introducing, discussing and answering questions about the site at the Collectors Universe forum: <http://forums.collectors.com/messageview.cfm?catid=26&threadid=784642>. Many sellers, buyers and collectors have shown great interest and hope for this site. Basically, this site is an alternative to eBay but is also highly specialized just for coin collectors, making it one-of-a-kind. First of all, anyone can quickly look up coin values, statistics, pictures, composition and other facts about coins in a very clean, organized and fast-loading "Red Book" format. Integrated into this site is a marketplace where members can easily buy, sell, auction or just keep track of their personal collection online.

There are no costs to sign up and no costs to list products or view information. The only charge is a 2% final value fee on any sold coins, which means the owners only make money when someone else does. Compare this to an example of an eBay coin dealer that recently contacted the site developer, who has a store with 20,000 coins. This dealer would have to spend \$300 per month for the store front, plus \$600 every 7 days in fixed listing fees (whether they sold the coins or not), on top of a 12% final value fee on anything that gets sold. This leaves very little room for dealer profits and buyers get stuck with over-priced coins. With the new site, everyone wins. The dealer gets more profits, the buyer gets better deals and the casual collector gets lots of coin information, pictures and being able to catalog their collections online. This is one reason why the site has become a wildly popular idea among collectors over the last seven days. Many collectors highly resent eBay because of their outrageous fees and they are looking for a true

specialized alternative to eBay. While eBay has heavy traffic, collectors are welcoming us to become an alternative to eBay. To compete with eBay, the site uses a highly technical marketing strategy known as SEO (Search Engine Optimization). It is used to rank the site highly in the search engines and draw in buyers directly from Google, Yahoo, Bing, Ask.com and other major search engines. Two major factors are used in search algorithms to determine ranking. One is how simple and organized the programming code is and the site navigation, which also benefits visitors. The other factor is how many other websites link back to the site. Even a single dealer linking back to the site from their website can provide massive boosts in rankings, which will bring in more potential buyers. In this way, dealers can help the site and at the same time, the site ends up helping them get more buyers, bigger profits and better deals. This site is designed by a 14-year veteran coin collector, computer programmer and currently unemployed physicist, so the developers have a very good insight on how to best design a clean and highly organized site that is specialized for collectors of any experience level or the average person wanting to look up the value of their old coins. At the moment, many sellers are waiting for more buyers and many buyers are waiting for more sellers to add coins. So the developers are kindly requesting and would greatly appreciate that everyone spreading the word in any form of media. The developers believe that collectors and sellers will be very excited about this news and it would greatly boost efforts to become an established alternative to eBay.

Inquiring Minds Want to Know

Len Augsburger said he is looking for an auction appearance, in the last several years, of a 1793 large cent, S-13, EF with re-engraving in the hair. The coin appeared in Stack's (Stadium/Gardner) 2/1965:1121 and is thought to have recently reappeared - somewhere. Has anyone seen this coin?

Ken Casebeer said his last request was so successful, he is emboldened to ask if anyone has something a bit more obscure for him: a Bolen, Inimica Tyrannus/Confederatio muling (either reverse)? He can be contacted at casebeer@law.miami.edu. Ken followed up his first posting by saying that having done some research (always a good thing before asking), in Nipper, Bowers, Redbook, Crosby, Durst, Dickinson, Evans, and numerous auctions, he has discovered the following (which may be common knowledge to the experienced) but offered for what it's worth. He apparently just missed a copy (Bolen or not, unknown) in the Bowers and Merena Boston auction, which closed at \$500. He realizes the unlikelihood of his request in that Bolen only produced 40 of each Confederatio reverse. However, when he sold the dies to Edwards, it is thought Edwards made a few more. It is also known that at least one electrotypes was made from an original owned by Saye by Dickinson. Unknown numbers of electrotypes of the Bolen copies have been made and sold at more than one auction he has found recently. Surprisingly, he has found no source of modern replicas (Rossa didn't make any, for example). Ken is surprised given the source of the design appears in the Confederation Congress papers, and is attributed to Jefferson. It is thus a semi-official U.S. pattern. Anyone with more info on availability?

Hank Abernathy said that while browsing the Stack's current auction he read the description of the 1796 no pole half cent, lot 189, listed as F12 (PCGS) which contains this sentence in the description: "Most known examples have rough surfaces and are not nearly as smooth as the present example, further enhancing its desirability. Of considerable importance, this one is certified, a fact that certainly eludes quite a number of circulated examples as their surface quality precludes certification." Hank then went to the Heritage archives to view recent prices for

this rarity and found the same coin from a May 2009 auction listed as "scratched, burnished, Fine details" with this sentence in the description:

"The surfaces are slightly glossy, a result of minor surface manipulation that NCS describes as burnishing" Has this coin in fact been re-graded by PCGS without mention of burnishing and scratches with an unqualified F12 grade? Apparently so, according to the Stack's description.

Gene Anderson stated that Mark Borckardt's November 2007 article on the second EAC convention held in New York (November 1968) states that each attendee received a counterstamped large cent (EAC 69). Greg Brunk cites John Wright as saying these were made by Tom Wolf in Miami and given out at a regional meeting in Miami. Both statements could be correct. He is curious if anyone can clarify this situation. The only living person Gene recognized on the attendee list given by Mark was Denis Loring.

Darwin Palmer(who was also on the above cited attendee list and is still very much alive and kicking) responded to Gene Anderson's query about counterstamped EAC tokens. The EAC 69 counterstamped large cents were given out by President Herb Silberman at the Annual Meeting in New York. Tom Wolf made the 1974 counterstamps for ANA in Miami.

Craig Hamling forwarded the following query from a non-member. "Since you folks seem to be the experts in large cents, I wonder if you can answer a question. I have several early [1793-1795] large cents with lettered edges [one hundred for a dollar]. All but one, you must read the lettering with the reverse facing up. One you must read with the obverse facing up. Does each of the Sheldon varieties have either lettering direction or is this a fluke or a certain variety only?"

Denis Loring responded to the query above about the direction edge lettering reads. To the best of his knowledge, it's purely random. Either orientation can appear on any variety.

[This question was also asked at the ANA Numismatic Theatre presentation on the development of the screw press. It was the unanimous opinion of the six members of the panel that the orientation is random and that this is because edge lettering was applied some time before the coin was struck, and the coiners paid no attention to the orientation of the edge when striking the coin. The apparent non-randomness noted by the original poster has to be due to his small sample size. If he looked at many coins of each variety, he'd see no pattern--Bill Eckberg]

Gene Anderson stated that he purchased the Smith Counterfeit listed as lot 134 in the EAC 2010 sale in Annapolis. He has been trying to trace the provenance of coin along with any other auction appearances. He knows the coin appeared as lot 2348 of the 9-6-2009 Pre-Long Beach sale catalog issued by Goldberg/McCawley-Grellman. It also appeared as lot 156 of the 3-20-07 Brooklyn Sale catalog issued by Stack's. If anyone has any information about the history of this coin, please contact him at ganderson@paristexas.gov or P.O. Box 9037, Paris, Texas 75461.

In Memoriam

Marie McHenry wrote to announce the passing last week of Region 8 member, **Doug McHenry**.

* * * * *

SWAPS AND SALES

EACers are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. Ads up to twelve lines are free. ADS LARGER THAN 12 LINES MUST BE SUBMITTED CAMERA-READY, AND PAID IN ADVANCE. A full-page ad is \$150. Graphic and halftone setup is an *additional* \$60 per page. One-half page is \$75. One-third page is \$50. Ads should be limited to early American Coppers or tokens. Deadline for material to appear in the November 2010 issue is October 31, 2010. All ads must include the individual membership number of a current member in good standing. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Harry E. Salyards, 606 North Minnesota Avenue, Hastings, NE 68901.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Early American Coppers, Inc. publisher of *Penny-Wise*, does not examine any of the material advertised in *Penny-Wise*, nor does it review any of the advertising therein. Early American Coppers, Inc. assumes no responsibility or liability for any advertisement (or the material described therein) and no part shall have recourse against Early American Coppers, Inc. All transactions arising or relating to any advertisement in *Penny-Wise* shall strictly be between the parties thereto. Complaints concerning advertisers (or respondents) should be referred to the President of Early American Coppers, Inc.; complaints may result in abridgment, suspension, or terminations of membership or advertising privileges.

* * * * *

John D. Wright, EAC #7 1468 Timberland Drive St. Joseph, MI 49085

The CENT Book 1816-1839. The standard reference on this series.
Big, clear pictures, full discussions, easy attribution.
Lists at \$125 plus postage.

Special to EAC members at \$100 postpaid.

Please email us at theJohn@SBCglobal.net

* * * * *

Allan Davisson, EAC #3299 Cold Spring, MN 56320 (our complete address)
(320) 685-3835 fax (320) 685-8636 coins@davissons.net

EXCEPTIONAL COPPER FROM THE 1790s: British tokens and books about them. We publish Dalton and Hamer, distribute the new 19th century copper token reference and stay in close touch with the British token market. We offer hundreds of 18th century "Conder" tokens each year as well as other series including 19th century copper, silver and (occasionally) gold tokens, British medals, British copper currency and out-of-print and important books and catalogs about tokens. Write for a free catalog.

Charles Davis, EAC #142

P.O. Box 547
Numislit@aol.com

Wenham, MA 01985

Sole distributor for United States Large Cents works by William Noyes:

United States Large Cents 1793-1794, all in color. New \$195.00

United States Large Cents 1795-1797, all in color. New \$150.00

1991 2 Volume set (1793-1814) and (1816-1839) \$240.00

Add \$10 shipping per order.

* * * * *

Bill McKivor, EAC #4180

P.O.Box 46135

Seattle, WA 98146

BmcKivor@juno.com or Copperman@Thecoppercorner.com

(206) 244 – 8345

Dealer in quality tokens at reasonable prices. Specialist in English “Conder” tokens, Evasions, 19th Century tokens, unofficial farthings, historical medals, and more.

Cobwright’s book on Evasion Tokens available at \$27 postpaid.

Many EACer’s receive my free lists – get yours today.

Also – a work in progress – my new WEB SITE – www.Thecoppercorner.com.

* * * * *

Mabel Ann Wright, EAC #78

1468 Timberlane Drive

St.Joseph, MI 49085

We still have some copies of The CENT Book 1816-1839.

Ask anybody who has one or has seen one--you want this book.

We are selling what we have to EAC members at \$100 postpaid.

Please email us at theJohn@SBCglobal.net

* * * * *

Dick Varian, EAC #5099

156 Park Avenue

Park Ridge, NJ 07656

(201) 746-0027

Dick1793@optonline.net

LARGE CENTS AND HALF CENTS FIXED PRICE LIST

Coins sent to EAC members on approval. Specialize in affordable collector coins. List updated every six weeks or so.

* * * * *

Rod Burress, EAC #109

9743 Leacrest
(513) 771-0696

Cincinnati, OH 45215

For Sale: #4 Soft Jeweler's Brush \$8.50 each
Jeweler's Tissue, 4 x 4 sheets: box of 1000, \$7.50; package of 250: \$2.50
Xylol, 4 oz. bottle, plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips \$4.00
Acetone, 4 oz. bottle, plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips \$4.00
Wooden stick Q-tips: \$4.50 per 500; \$8.50 per 1000
Cast iron notary machine, unconverted, for the do-it-yourselfer \$16.00
Heavy-duty 28 lb. Kraft 2 x 2 coin envelopes, in gray, white, or brown:
\$5.50 per 100; \$22 per 500; \$42 per 1000. (Send SASE for samples.)
Cotton Liners, 100 percent soft cotton flannel interior; fit inside standard 2 x 2 coin
envelopes: package of 100 for \$29. (Send SASE for sample.)
VIGOR 10x Triplet magnifying glass: very high quality optics—aplanatic, achromatic,
with extra wide 13/16 inch lens. The best glass on the market to my knowledge
for its size and price. \$59 each, with cord.
Attribution Guide for Matron Head Cents, 1816-1835, approx. 37 pages \$5.00

Add \$9 per order for shipping (\$10 Western states). Any excess will be refunded.

Shipping by UPS: ***You must give a street address.***

* * * * *

PROVENANCE GALLERY OF 1794 LARGE CENTS

Order your copy of the reference book featuring the most coveted and prolific date of the early United States Large Cents.

An overview of the formation of the United States monetary system and the Philadelphia Mint as well as the conditions surrounding the production of what many consider the ultimate numismatic subject: The cents of 1794.

A brief history of large cent collecting and their collectors, descriptions of collectible obverse & reverse designs, and colorful photographic plates of each coin featured in the 2004 EAC Provenance Exhibit at the Early American Coppers San Diego convention. Prologue by John W. Adams. **\$25.00 postpaid.**

Al Boka EAC #406 9817 Royal Lamb Dr., Las Vegas NV 89145
Tel: 702 809-2620 - email: eac406@aol.com – **www.1794LargeCents.com**

* * * * *

EARLY COPPER AUCTIONS

Bob Grellman, EAC #575 P. O. Box 161055 Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-1055
(407) 682-9592 (home) (407) 221-1654 (cell) email: ljefferys@cfl.rr.com.

Consignments for Auction: I am accepting consignments for all McCawley & Grellman (M&G) Auctions, including the annual EAC Sale and C-4 Sale (Colonial Coin Collector's Club), as well as auctions at commercial venues. Call for details and the options available.

Late Date Large Cent Book: *The Die Varieties of United States Large Cents 1840-1857* is available for immediate delivery. Every known die variety and die state of 1840-1857 cents is fully described, with additional rarity information for rare die states. The book is a deluxe hardbound edition, 464 pages, over 100 photos. Price is \$100 postpaid. Autographed on request.

* * * * *

Greg Heim, EAC # 3619 P. O. Box 277 South Plainfield, NJ 07080-0277
(908) 405-6408

WANTED: Colonials, Half Cents, or Large Cents for consignment on eBay, which have a "per lot" average of at least \$150.00. I provide basic, straightforward auctions in a "no reserve" format with excellent images and customer service. Please call or e-mail to request my fee structure. Go to my website at www.gynandroidhead.com for more information.

* * * * *

An Interesting Selection of 18th Century British Tokens
Plus some Regal and Colonial Coins and a few Odds and Ends

Many tokens currently listed on our web site and inventory is updated frequently.

Please take a look – comments and commentary welcome.

Always in the market to buy—contact me at your convenience.

Gary Groll EAC #4814 CTCC—EAC—C4—ANA
P.O. Box 7152, Charlottesville, VA 22906
[443.223.0399](tel:443.223.0399)—gary@grollcoins.com--www.grollcoins.com

* * * * *




COIN RARITIES ONLINE
Museum Quality CoinageSM



"PURVEYORS OF FINE CHOCOLATE SINCE 1979."
 DAVE WNUCK EAC #779 • JOHN AGRE EAC #5683
WWW.COINRARITIESONLINE.COM
1-800-COINS-99

* * * * *

Craig McDonald

EAC # 1540

Frisco, TX

Mahogany Coin Cabinets – Handcrafted from solid mahogany. Cabinets now available with either 12, 15, or 18 trays. Trays can be configured with 28 recesses of 1-1/4" diameter, 20 recesses of 1-1/2", or 12 recesses of 2". Custom cabinets also now available...contact me to discuss your needs. Cabinets start at \$325, with **free shipping** for C4 and EAC members. For additional information, images, or to order, visit: www.CabinetsByCraig.net (note that it's .net), or call 972-978-7710, or write: PO Box 1231, Frisco, TX 75034.

* * * * *

Howard Spencer Pitkow, EAC #5486 1210 Newport Mews Drive, Bensalem, PA. 19020
215-244-1505 wallypitkow@aol.com

I am looking to purchase the following 14 large cent varieties for my personal collection.

1797-S121a, S122, S125, S129	1835-N19
1798-S144, S156, S178, S180	1838-N16
1803-S264	1849-N30
1823-Restrike	1854-N30

Please write, call or E-mail me.

* * * * *

DAN HOLMES COLLECTION PART 1 catalog for sale. I have two unused copies of the Goldberg catalog for this epic collection. These do not include the Prices Realized. \$20 each or \$30 for the pair. Please add \$4 shipping for one or \$5 for two.

David W. Lange, EAC #1683
POB 110022
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211
941-586-8670
www.coincollectingboards.net

* * * * *

David Johnson, EAC #5235 PO Box 8452 Chattanooga, TN 37411 423-240-4277

1796 S-110. Glossy hard smooth brown. VG 10 net 7+ A. LDS with CUD.....\$775
1796 S-116. Smooth medium brown. In PCGS holder F15. EAC 12+/net 10+ A. Equal to CC#8..\$4,000.
1798 S-155. Glossy brown. Removed from PCGS holder graded F15. EAC 15 net 12 A. LDS. ...\$1,250.
1800 S-198. Glossy smooth brown. Recolored. Several minor rim bruises. G4/3 Net 3.....\$1,350.
1800 S-199. Hard glossy chocolate brown w/steel devices. Removed from ANACS holder graded VG10. VG 8 A. LDS.....\$700
1803 S-250. Hard glossy brown. Removed from ANACS holder graded VF20. EAC 20+ Net 20....\$695
e-mail me @ davejohnson@comcast.net for further information or call 423-240-4277. SH & I included.

March Wells, EAC #702 2407 Tuckaho Rd. Louisville, KY 40207
(502) 895-6104

1796 S-83, AG3, ex-EAC Sale '09:80, clipped planchet over IB	\$250.
1810 S-283, AG3, ex-EAC Sale '00:269, double struck obverse, 90% off-center at K1.5, really nice super smooth coin	\$210.
1816 N-5, a nice AU coin, very attractive	\$1150.
1818 N-2, EF40, CC: 6-8, ex-Wyatt:403, Mendelson: 249	\$3150.
1823/2 N-1, VF25, ex-EAC '85:399, Corrado: 510	\$3550.
1830 N8, ex-RSB I:686, R. Adam 9/04:866, Wright plate coin, PCGS 63 BN, EAC 60	\$2450.

* * * * *

John Dirnbauer, EAC #571 P. O. Box 196 Thomaston, ME 04861-0196
(207) 354-3573 email: john@johndirnbauercoins.com

I will attend the Philadelphia Coin Expo, September 30-October 2; the New Hampshire Coin Expo in Manchester, October 8-10; the Baltimore Coin Expo, November 4-7; and the Bay State Show/C4 Convention in Boston, November 11-14. Please stop at the John Dirnbauer Rare Coins table to see my newly acquired copper coins and other interesting material. The following are a few “specials” for this issue of *Penny-Wise*:

1797 S-130, R2, F12 Avg.: die state B, olive smooth glossy surfaces, faint rev. hairlines:	\$450.
1802 S-227, R2, VF20 Avg.: even color, nice surfaces, no major distractions, weak date:	\$500.
1842 N-4, R2, 40net 25+, Avg.+: large date, mid die state, light chocolate, darker hglts:	\$125.

I am interested in buying nice middle date large cents in VF-25—MS-63. Please contact me if you have such animals that are trying to escape your cage.

* * * * *

Jim Young, EAC #795

P. O. Box 222
(443) 617-5907

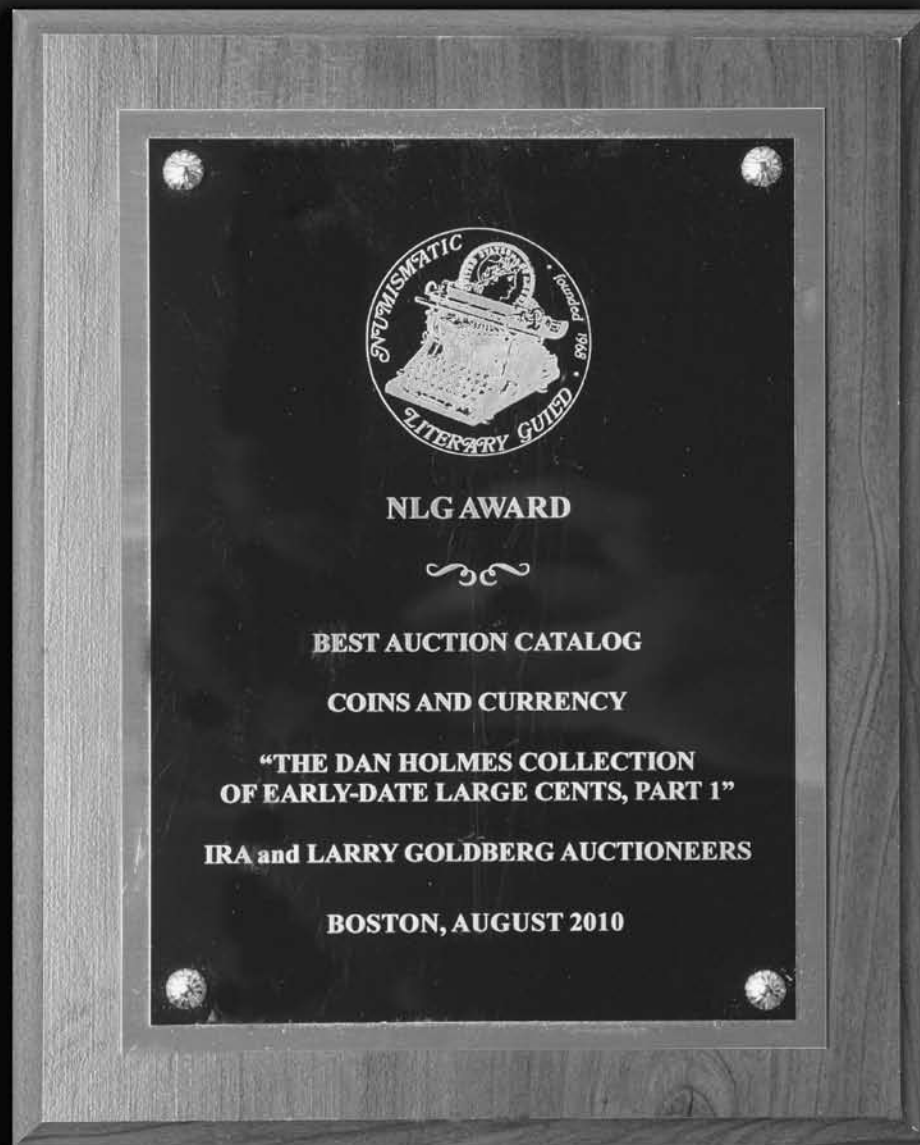
Darlington, MD 21034

1797 Half Cent C-2. VG8. Ten detail but many fine scratches; nice brown, somewhat thick. 94.7 grains, probably cutdown T.A.L.	\$450.
1797 Half Cent C-3b. AG3. Lettered edge; denticles of cutdown large cent visible. Some marks but OK brown.	\$1275.
1802 Half Cent C-2. Fair 2. Heavily worn, a bit rough, OK brown. \$285.	
1807 Half Cent C-1. EF40. Lovely honey brown; die state 3, very nice.	\$550.
1794 Large Cent S-27. G/AG 5/2 conservatively. OK brown. Obverse bulged and desirable.	\$825.
1794 Large Cent S-45. G4. V-VF sharpness; quite bold but rough. Brown color is OK.	\$500.
1802 Large Cent NC-1. AG3. VG sharpness but blotchy and rough.	\$375.
1807/6 Large Cent S-272. Small 7 over 6. AG3. Full bold date. Worn but choice smooth brown.	\$1250.
1818 Large Cent N-10. AU53. Nice brown red with minimal marks.	\$365.
1828 Large Cent, small date. Dateless 20% off-center to 12 o'clock. Choice glossy brown F15.	\$575.
1838 Large Cent N-12. AU50. Lovely lustrous brown.	\$245.

* * * * *

LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER.

Chris McCawley, Bob Grellman, and Goldberg Coins & Collectibles are pleased to accept The NLG's 2009 Catalogue of the Year Award for The Dan Holmes Collection Part I, Early-Date Large Cents.



**GIVE YOUR COLLECTION THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES.
CONTACT US TO CONSIGN YOUR COINS.**



*Chris McCawley
Bob Grellman
Ira & Larry Goldberg*

*1-972-668-1575
1-407-682-9592
1-800-978-2646*

*350 S. Beverly Drive, Suite 350 Beverly Hills CA 90212
310-551-2646 ph | 310-551-2626 fx | www.goldbergcoins.com*

Charles Davis
Numismatic Literature
Box 547
Wenham, Mass^{ts} 01984

(978) 468 2933
Numislit@aol.com

EAC 142
ANA 60027

Mail Bid Sale
Numismatic Literature
October 30, 2010

A major offering of works on British Provincial Tokens
From the Library of
Allan Davisson

Significant Works on Early American Coinage
From the Library of
Michael Hodder

An Offering from the Library of
A. Piatt Andrew
Director of the Mint 1909-1910

With highlights including

1875 Crosby in Nova Constellatio Binding with Maris Plate
Plated Chapmans in remarkable condition with Significant Large Cents
including H. P. Smith and Taylor Windle
Ted Naftzger's White Calf Pearl Catalogue
Original Dalton & Hamer
Clapp on Cents of 1798-1799
The Virtuoso's Companion, 2 sets
Sharp Catalogue of Chetwynd Collection of Tokens
3 editions of Pye; 2 editions of Conder
BEP Vignette Books Presented to the Director of the Mint
Rare Greco Plates of Massachusetts Copper with Even Rarer Text
A Superb Set of Loubat
Acts & Laws of the Massachusetts-Bay, 1742

Catalogues available on request or on our website

<http://www.vcoins.com/ancient/charlesdavis>



1804 Spiked Chin Half Cent, Obverse Brockage

Images courtesy of Ira & Larry Goldberg Auctioneers